

WATERTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 5:30pm

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Board President Chris Koppes at 5:30pm.

Members Present: Gerike, Merfeld, Oudenhoven, Kohls, Koppes, Wetzels, O'Neil, Burke, Kneser

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Library Director - Peg Checkai, Head of Adult Services and Technology - Jaimie Hernandez, Head of Children's Services - Tina Peerenboom, Head of Circulation - Cari Gunderson.

2. Review Correspondence - None.

3. Citizens to be Heard - None.

4. Appearances

- a. Informational presentation by Stephanie Curtis: re: use of the Community Room for open play/gym area
- b. Discussion with Tina Crave - Greater Watertown Community Health Foundation
 - i. Board and Librarian Work Group to meet for goal setting/outreach for Talk, Read, Play Center
 - ii. Connectedness Workshop

*****MOTION #1** per, Koppes seconded per Burke to move 6d to next on the agenda.

Resolution: Motion approved per voice acclimation.

6d. Review and take action: Proposal from City IT Coordinator to add fiber optic line to the Library.

*****MOTION #2** per Koppes, second per Gerike for the Watertown Public Library to pay 50/50 with the City of Watertown to add fiber optic line not to exceed \$7,185.77 from the Capital Improvement Budget.

Votes for: Gerike, Merfeld, Oudenhoven, Kohls, Koppes, Wetzels, Burke, Kneser

Votes against: O'Neil

Resolution: Motion Carries.

5. New Business

- a. Discussion around the pallet of bricks - the WUSD will find a space to hold them, if not the City Street Department will dispose of them at the quarry.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. Review and take action: 2023 State Annual Report

*****MOTION #3** per Kohls, 2nd per Wetzel to approve the change in the 2023 State Annual Report.

Votes for: Gerike, Merfeld, Oudenhoven, Kohls, Koppes, O'Neil, Wetzel, Burke, Kneser

Votes against:

Resolution: Motion Carries.

- b. Review and take action: Employee vacancies due to resignations and promotions
 - i. Discussion regarding recommended City budget for personnel, while there are growing concerns for capacity on operations. Forms to add positions will be sent to the City of Watertown.

*****MOTION #4** per Burke, 2nd per Kneser to approve a vacancy for a part time library assistant at \$16,968 and one page position at \$5,000.

Votes for: Gerike, Merfeld, Oudenhoven, Kohls, Koppes, O'Neil, Wetzel, Burke, Kneser

Votes against:

Resolution: Motion Carries.

- c. Review and take action: 2024 CE Team Education on April 11, 2024 after the board meeting

7. Director's Report

- a. Director Peg Checkai on monthly highlights, budget and statistics.

8. Trustee's Report

- a. Discussion on library related topics in official capacity with possible suggestions for the next board meeting: CE scheduled for April Meeting.

9. President's Report

- a. Review of contacts in official capacity.
 - i. Discussion continues regarding the City of Watertown and Watertown Public Library MOU.
 - ii. Marketing and communication to parents regarding content to minors will be revisited.

10. Review and take action: Consent Agenda Items

*****MOTION #5** per Burke, seconded per Wetzel to approve the consent agenda.

Votes for: Gerike, Merfeld, Oudenhoven, Kohls, Koppes, O'Neil, Wetzel, Burke, Kneser

Votes against:

Resolution: Motion Carries.

11. Adjournment

******MOTION #6** per Oudenhoven, seconded per Kneser to adjourn meeting at 7:05 pm.

Resolution: Motion approved per voice acclimation.

These meeting minutes are uncorrected and stand as such until approved at the next Board of Trustees Meeting held on April 11, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Gerike, Secretary