

Mount Pleasant Public Library: Board of Trustees Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting of January 18, 2024

Trustees & Liaisons present: Dick Malina, Mary Ann Quinn, Julie Edwards, Rebecca Myers, Eric Neuman, Frank Casale, Kent Anker, Thomas Sialiano (Town Liaison)

Also present:

John Fearon, Library Director; Martha Mesiti, Assistant Library Director

Trustees & Liaisons absent: James Riina, Paul Alvarez (Village Liaison)

Call to Order

Administrative: Trustee Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Minutes

The minutes of the December 14, 2023, Board meeting were approved. Moved by Trustee Malina, seconded by Trustee Casale, and passed.

Opportunity to Hear from the Public: No members of the public attended the meeting.

Opportunity to Hear from Liaisons

Liaison Sialiano spoke with Town Engineer David Smyth concerning his revision and detailed breakdown of the Master Plan document into successive phased projects. His comments led into a broader discussion with the Board concerning the revised plan and the most effective and politic way of engaging municipal support for the proposal. The renovations/remediation will make the building safe and sustainable; and the Library is prepared to make a significant contribution toward the costs.

Claims of Payment

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Neuman, and seconded by Trustee Anker, that:

It is hereby resolved that, after review, the Library Board approves the following payments for the month of January 2024:

- Invoices charged against the General fund for fiscal year 2023: \$21,091.55
- Invoices charged against the General fund for fiscal year 2024: \$50,254.70
- Invoices paid via the Library credit card for fiscal year 2023: \$355.23
- Invoices paid via the Library credit card for fiscal year 2024: \$702.41

202401-01 The motion passed.

Directors Report

Director Fearon's report this month focused particularly on the Library's financial standing. Library finances are in good condition, and reserve funds are very strong, which enables the Library to commit to sharing in the costs of proposed capital improvements. The Library's budget for the year is adequate to cover its expenses. Going forward, however, the costs of benefits (health insurance and NYS retirement) are likely to increase significantly and unpredictably, and the Library cannot simply expand measures it has used in the past (i.e., increased employee contributions and tighter staffing) to manage these increases. The Library cannot cut staff any further without reducing services. In sum, the Library is in good shape, but it will need to be cognizant of likely increases in long-term expenses, and cautious in considering new initiatives.

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Anker, and seconded by Trustee Malina, that:

It is hereby resolved that the 2024 IRS mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.67 per mile be approved

202401-02 The motion passed.

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Myers, and seconded by Trustee Quinn, that:

It is hereby resolved that the 2024 Trust & Agency Funds spending plan be approved

202401-03 The motion passed.

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Casale, and seconded by Trustee Quinn, that:

It is hereby resolved that the 2024 Strategic Plan be approved

202401-04 The motion passed.

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Myers, and seconded by Trustee Anker, that:

It is hereby resolved that revised Use of Library Facilities Policy be approved

202401-05 The motion passed.

New Business

Director Fearon announced that the Library is working on developing a new website and asked for a few trustees to volunteer as testers.

Trustee Myers moved for adjournment at 8:10 pm, seconded by Trustee Malina.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Quinn
Secretary