

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

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

Also present:

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

Trustees & Liaisons absent : Kent Anker, Paul Alvarez (Village Liaison)

Call to order

Administrative: Trustee Edwards called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 21, 2024, Board meeting were approved. Moved by Trustee Malina, seconded by Trustee Myers, and passed.

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

Opportunity to Hear from Liaisons

Liaison Sialiano informed the Board that the Town expected to fill two vacant trustee positions before the next Library Board meeting. With regard to the phased master plan proposal, agreement on financing is the next step; but he had no action to report. Opening a broader discussion, Trustee Edwards and other board members stressed the importance of moving forward with the plan, as well as the Board's frustration with the municipalities' inaction and silence with regard to a Library building situation that is both unsafe and unsustainable.

Claims of Payment

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Quinn, and seconded by Trustee Edwards, that: It is hereby resolved that, after review, the Library Board approves the following payments for the month of April 2023:

- Invoices charged against Trust & Agency Funds: \$1,019.96
- Invoices charged against the General fund: \$43,593.58
- Invoices paid via the Library credit card: \$2,349.49

202304-01 The motion passed.

Directors Report

Director Fearon presented a happily “boring, normal” review of Library finances, which are in good health. Statistics reveal that the Library’s book lending (physical books plus eBooks and audiobooks) was at its highest point in 2023 than in a decade (or more).

The Library is looking to engage a new contractor to complete the remaining waterproofing and restoration work in the lower-level lobby (installation of a third sump pump and carpeting).

The Garden Club will be planting a new garden in the back corner of the parking lot, and in addition they plan to rejuvenate the garden near the parking lot entrance to the Library. To help preserve the plantings and to keep the walkways clear, the Library has agreed to install a railing near the entrance. The proposed railings will match railings used on the Bedford Road side of the Library.

Old Business: Master Plan

Trustees Edwards and Anker will be working together with Director Fearon to draft a formal statement of the Library Board’s position on the Master Plan. While emphasizing the benefits of to the community of the proposed improvements and the Library’s own significant financial commitment, the document will also be a guide to the Master Plan that outlines the challenges and risks with the building; the Master Plan’s evolution; and the Plan’s proposed phases, costs, and cost-sharing formulas. The document will also underscore the urgency of acting. The Library otherwise risks losing the grant money it has. With a commitment, the Library can begin to plan, and can explore other possible sources of funding. The intention is to share this guide with the members of the Town Council and the Village Board, and possibly at some point with the public.

Trustee Myers moved for adjournment at 7:45 pm, seconded by Trustee Casale.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Quinn
Secretary