

**Plainville Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2023**

****UNAPPROVED DRAFT****

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Pat Fongemie, Rebecca Ireland, Roberta Lauria, Joyce Goldberg, Barbara Davison, and Julia Underwood; Rosemary Morante, Town Council Liaison

STAFF: Trish Tomlinson, Library Director

Motion was made by: Roberta Lauria to move the Director's Report to the top of the agenda. She had another Town meeting to attend that evening, and did not want to miss this portion of the agenda if she had to leave early.

Seconded: Pat Fongemie

All in favor: 6 to 0. Motion passed.

7. Director's Report

- a. Homeless library patrons.** Trish reported that a homeless senior citizen and her adult son had been asked to leave the library after many patron complaints. The two first appeared in late spring and, at first, inconspicuously spent a few hours per day reading in the library. Their visits escalated into a daily habit of arriving every day at 9am when the library opened, and staying until the library closed at 8pm (4pm on Fridays and Saturdays). Staff had to constantly wake them up from sleeping; they monopolized the lounge seating in the fiction or nonfiction area; and they often ate and took their shoes off in the library. Staff warnings to them went unheeded, and the situation continued through the summer.

Before moving ahead with asking these people to leave the library, Trish consulted with Police Chief Vanghele and Town Social Services Specialist Pam French on the matter, as well as a representative from the area homeless coalition who had met with the pair a few times to offer services. Trish heeded their advice and appreciated their support. When Trish approached the homeless individuals and explained the situation; the duo immediately and calmly left the library, understanding that their repeated policy infractions and misuse of the library environment led to their expulsion.

b. Bird egg collection

- Data-at-a-glance: In an effort to inventory the collection holdings before donating them to the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History – after the transfer of ownership contract is completed – Trish recorded a number of data sets. Details of this data can be found on the library website at:

<https://www.plainvillect.com/library/urgent-alerts/1062023-update-library-statement-bird-egg-collection>

- Draft contract review: Trish presented to the Trustees the draft agreement from Yale Peabody regarding the transfer of ownership of the library's bird egg collection. She explained that, upon Board approval, the draft agreement will be sent to the Town Attorney for review. The draft will then come back to the Library Board for final approval before notarized signing and then actual transfer. Once Yale has received, sorted, and catalogued the collection, a number of duplicate egg sets with proper scientific cataloging, will be returned to the library along with a donation of a museum-quality-level display case.

No one present had any comments on or corrections of the draft agreement.

Motion was made by: Barbara Davison (? need to confirm. No voice recording.) to forward the draft agreement to the Town Attorney for review.

Seconded: Joyce Goldberg (? Need to confirm).

All in favor: 5 to 1. Opposed by Roberta Lauria.

1. Public Comment

None. The Board was pleased to have Deborah Tompkins, Town Council member, in attendance to observe the meeting.

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items

There were no requests.

3. Review & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by: Rebecca Ireland (? need to confirm) to approve Minutes for September 12, 2023 as amended.

Seconded: Julia Underwood (? need to confirm)

All in favor: 6 to 0.

Roberta Lauria asked that June 2023 meeting minutes be corrected to state her husband's name as Anthony Lauria, not James. Trish will make the correction.

4. Finance Report

Trish informed the Board that the monthly investment statements from RBC just arrived in the mail, and she will upload them to Dropbox.

Roberta Lauria noted it had been some time since the library adopted fine-free status, and she requested to see the financial impact of the policy change. Trish said she would gather the information and email it to the Trustees.

(Note: Trish emailed the information the next day. Overall, revenue seemed to slightly increase since the library went fine-free. The revenue generated was from fees for printing, copying, faxing, and lost/damaged & paid items. The past year was compared to the same time period as the year before, and the same time period in the year pre-COVID. An analysis discussion will take place at the November meeting.)

5. Statistical Report

Statistical and Circulation Reports for September 2023 were not as robust as staff hoped, but the Board did comment on a few improvements.

6. Department Reports

Adult and Youth Services activity reports for September were presented. Trish mentioned that online library card registration and renewal was now available. Rebecca Ireland asked how we verify ID and local address with this method. Trish said she would confirm with staff and email the Trustees.

(Note: Trish emailed the Trustees the next day that this question is covered on the library website:

<https://libraryconnection.info/online/registration/register.php?lib=pl>)

8. Adjournment

Motion was made by: Rebecca Ireland to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm.

Seconded: Julia Underwood.

All in favor: 6 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Guíte

Dawn Guite, Recording Secretary

*The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees for
Plainville Public Library is on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**
in the Library Trustees Meeting Room.*