

DEARBORN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
June 8, 2022  
**APPROVED**

➤ ATTENDEES:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| ➤ Chairperson Marcel Pultorak                | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Vice Chairperson Dr. Ryan Lazar            | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Secretary/Treasurer Jihan Jawad            | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Barth Bucciarelli             | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Ali Dagher                    | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Eva Gogola                    | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Michelle Jawad                | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Arrwa Mogalli                 | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Commissioner Mansour Sharha                | ➤ Absent  |
|  |           |
| ➤ Library Director Maryanne Bartles          | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Deputy Director Julie Schaefer             | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Administrative Librarian Patty Podzikowski | ➤ Present |
| ➤ Department Technician Daniel Smith         | ➤ Present |

## I APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission Chairperson Pultorak called the meeting to order at 4:06pm. He announced a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2022 Library Commission meeting.

- No edits or amendments advised. Minutes approved.

## II BUDGET

The budget was adopted on June 7. The millage was reduced by 15. Chairperson Pultorak addressed the City Council in a letter, referencing the Library's efforts rolling out the strategic plan. He also spoke about how reducing the millage would impact the money that the library receives from the Local Community Stabilization Act (LCSA).

The Library was questioned about its fund balance; the majority of which comes from the LCSA, which replaced personal property tax revenue. The Library receives about \$1 million per year in funding through LCSA.

The commission discussed ramping up outreach efforts with the fund balance and the millage. Library staff currently does outreach at the schools, the senior homes, and at the Salina lockers; outreach could be expanded, but it will require more staff.

The administration discussed issues getting new staff approved in the past, but will try to get approval for new staff again.

### **III FOUNDATION UPDATE**

The next meeting is on June 27. They are still looking for members. The board is green but strongly advocates for the Library. They have provided key support for the millage renewal vote.

### **IV INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **A. Staff Meet & Greet at Commission meeting – May AND June**

The Library Commission met in the HFCL auditorium for the May and June meetings to address questions and concerns from library staff.

#### **B. Commission re-appointments and appointments**

Three commissioners' terms expire in June. The Mayor and City Council will decide who will serve on the commission.

#### **C. Attorney for potential City Charter changes**

Library Administration found a library law specialist and will reach out.

#### **D. Progress on Reflection Room**

The reflection room is open on the east side of the HFCL mezzanine. It is being promoted mainly through word-of-mouth. There has been mention of it on social media. A press release is forthcoming.

We are looking for community feedback. Patrons have been appreciative so far. HFCL is possibly the only public library in the state with a reflection room.

#### **E. Upcoming programs**

A committee formed to begin planning the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Possible dates for programs are September 25 through October 23. Staff are working with the Historical Museum to gather photos to create 3D printed ornaments of the library buildings, and a historic timeline will be on the website. Other giveaway items are also being considered.

### **V ACTION ITEMS**

None presented.

## **VI COMMENTS**

The commission discussed the possibility of hybrid meetings. According to the Library of Michigan, all commissioners would be required to attend in person, but the public may attend virtually. The Library upgraded its Zoom account to potentially allow for such a meeting format.

Commissioner Arrwa Mogalli suggested that the meeting reminder get sent out as calendar invitations in order to better remember. Daniel will do this from now on.

Commissioner Eva Gogola mentioned our active cardholder numbers and expressed interest in doing something to double our numbers. This was discussed as a possible initiative that staff could do in conjunction with the strategic plan.

Director Bartles reported her intent to retire as Library Director by the end of 2022.

**The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm**