

**HOMWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

MINUTES

**Regular Board Meeting, February 21, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

President Bouchie called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Present were George Bouchie, Yoka Ward, Adrienne River, Percy Harris, Cece Belue, Tom Nowak, Catherine Uecker, and Administrative Librarian Amy Crump. Recorder of minutes was Amy Crump.

GUESTS –

Cameron Day, chief negotiator for the HPL AFSCME chapter.
Lisa Stilts, HPL staff and chairperson for the AFSCME negotiating team
Margaret Novak, HPL staff

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Day thanked Ms. Ward for her representation of the Board during the negotiating process.

PATRON COMMENTS (BLUE SHEETS):

Comment sheets were reviewed by the Trustees. Questions were raised about the comment on the broken bathroom stall latch, the statement about reduced purchasing of playaways and the comment about the Readers' Digest magazine. Ms. Crump will be looking into each of these items.

CONSENT AGENDA (Action with Roll Call Vote)

- Approval of the Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 17, 2018
- Acceptance of the Financial Report of January 31, 2018
- Approval of General Fund Check Register
 - Acceptance of the Bills Payable Report in the amount of \$156,410.89
 - Payrolls January/February 2018
 - IMRF and FICA January 2018
 - Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2018
 - YTD Actual Vs. Budget

Ms. River moved to approve the Consent Agenda (without the January 2018 Statistical Report), and Ms. Ward seconded. Roll call vote: Bouchie-yes Ward-yes River-yes Harris-yes Belue-yes Nowak-yes Uecker-yes. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE LIBRARIAN'S REPORT (Information)

See attached document. Ms. Crump also reported on the success of the 2018 Spell Check fundraiser.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Facilities (Information)
 - Mr. Harris moved to approve the minutes of the Facility Committee meeting on 1/24/18. Ms. Uecker seconded it and it passed unanimously.
 - Mr. Harris moved to approve the minutes of the Facility Committee meeting on 2/13/18. Ms. Uecker seconded it and it passed unanimously.

- Finance (Information)
No report

- Personnel Policy (Information)
No report

- Policy (Information)
No report

OLD BUSINESS:

EHC Contract – The February 2018 meeting was cancelled so Mr. Bouchie will address the East Hazel Crest Board at their April 2018 meeting, in plenty of time to start the renegotiation of the contract that expires in June 2019.

NEW BUSINESS –

- The renovation proposal has been tabled due to alterations in the proposal. It will be presented at the March 21 Board Meeting, depending on the results of the March 13 meeting of the Facility Committee.
- Standards & Poor Rating
 - Ms. Crump informed the Board that financial information had been provided by the auditors and accountant to the Standards & Poor representative for them to determine the library's ranking. This happens approximately every three years or so. Ms. Crump will inform the Board of the results when they are provided.
- Property Tax Bills
 1. The Board discussed the new property tax bills, which this year list all the taxing bodies and the amounts paid for staff pensions, according to GASB 68.

The information provided can be confusing because there is a column that lists any shortage on pensions and every single district is listed to have large shortages – the library's is listed as 1.3 million dollars. However, these amounts are based on the theory that if everyone working at the library retired tomorrow, we would be short by that amount. The reality is that everyone will not retire tomorrow and our payment requirements will cover staff retirements. The library pays 15.85% of each staff member's salary towards your pension, as required by Illinois law and the employees pay 4.5%, also as required by law. The amount that the library pays goes up whenever necessary to ensure that the pension is fully funded when a person retires. Also, the numbers are based on a calendar year, ending on

December 31, 2016 and our numbers are based on a fiscal year so there is a gap in the numbers.

The Board asked Ms. Crump to inform the staff that they should communicate that information to any patron who might ask about their tax bill and this new information that appears on the bills. The library is most definitely not 1.3 million dollars short of the pension fund.

- 30 year anniversary
 - Ms. Crump requested that the Board think about putting together an advocacy committee to start work on celebrating the 30-year anniversary of the library building coming up in 2020. She suggested that perhaps a library ambassador program would be beneficial, incorporating library patrons and community members to help support and promote the Homewood Library.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn by Ms. River, seconded by Mr. Harris at 7:47 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Accepted

**George Bouchie,
President**

Percy Harris, Secretary