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Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023

Ms. Riales, President, called the Bellwood Public Library Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Ms. Felicia Chase
Ms. Mary Clements
Ms. Maria Perez
Ms. Constance Riales
Mrs. Dorothy Smith

Absent:

Pastor Horton
Mr. Reginald Stewart

Mr. Stewart arrived at 6:33 p.m. via phone after voice vote by the Trustees to approve Mr. Stewart attending remotely.

Library Attorney Dee Jarod arrived at 6:33 p.m. via phone.

Also in attendance: Library Director Amy Crump and Administrative Assistant Lili Savage.
Also present were 3 community members.

Public Comment:

A former staff member made a public comment regarding the nature of her release from employment at the Bellwood Library.

A motion was made by Ms. Clements, seconded by Ms. Chase to approve the meeting minutes for October 10, 2023.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

Finance Committee Report:

Ms. Clements gave the finance report which included: Reports of Bills: #839, 839-A, & 839-B. The following reports of bills were submitted, copies of which are included as part of these minutes:

#839 (Bill List) in the amount of	\$ 68,366.42
#839-A (Payroll) in the amount of	\$ 68,950.96
#839-B (Checking) in the amount of	\$ 0.00
TOTAL:	\$ 137,317.38

A motion was made by Ms. Chase, seconded by Ms. Clements for approval of Bills-Reports #839, 839-A, & 839-B. The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.
A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

Other Committee Reports:

- a. Administration Committee (Chairman: Trustee Clark-Smith)
 - i. No report.
- b. Building and Grounds Committee (Chairman: Trustee Chase)
 - i. No report.
- c. Finance Committee (Chairman: Treasurer Clements)
 - i. No report.
- d. Planning and Development Committee (Chairman: Secretary Stewart)
 - i. No report.
- e. Public Relations and Legislation Committee (Chairman: Trustee Perez)
 - i. No report.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- a. A motion was made by Ms. Chase, seconded by Ms. Perez for approval of 2024 Budget of \$2,441,481 and the 2023 Levy of \$2,233,000. The Levy reflects a 1.5% increase from the previous levy.
A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 4: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales

NAYS: 2: Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

- b. A motion was made by Ms. Clements, seconded by Ms. Perez for approval of Library Closed Dates for 2024.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

- c. A motion was made by Ms. Chase, seconded by Mr. Stewart for approval of Bellwood Banned Books Club program.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

- i. A motion by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Ms. Perez for the selection of the first banned book titled, "My Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson".

A roll call vote was taken,

AYES: 5: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 1: Mr. Stewart

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

- d. Discussion and review of Serving Our Public 4.0.

Communication/Announcements: None

Library Director Report: The report is posted on the Bellwood Public Library's web page.

Public Comment: 1. Patron suggestions are reported at the board meeting. 2. There will be a staff pay increase with the new 2024 budget. 3. The library's cameras are monitored by staff.

A motion was made by Ms. Chase, seconded by Ms. Clement that the Board convene into Closed Session at 7:28 pm for:

a. Discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal or specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body under 5ILCS 120/ 2 (c) (1).

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Clements, seconded by Ms. Chase to return to Open Session at 8:06 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

Adjournment: Ms. Clements moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Smith seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

A roll call was taken.

AYES: 6: Ms. Chase, Ms. Clements, Ms. Perez, Ms. Riales, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Stewart

NAYS: 0:

ABSTAIN: 0:

ABSENT: 1: Pastor Horton

The motion passed.

Reginald Stewart, Secretary