

**The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees  
Minutes of a Regular Meeting  
Held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Urbana Free Library Board of Trustees met via Zoom on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. The meeting was called to order by the President, John Thies, at 7:00 p.m. John stated that pursuant to the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation and the Declaration of Emergency for the City of Urbana, Illinois, related to the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with changes to the Open Meetings Act, (Public Act (P.A. 101-0640)), it has been determined that an in-person public meeting is not prudent or safe at this time.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Staff present: Becky Brown, Dawn Cassady, Celeste Choate, Rachel Fuller, Donica Swann, and Leon Wilson

Also Present: Eleanore Brown and Brie Gaspar

**ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, MODIFICATIONS OF THE AGENDA**

Presentations 7.1 and 7.2 were tabled until the March meeting. Closed session point 17.3 was also tabled until the March meeting.

**APPROVE THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Beth Scheid, seconded by Barb Bennett, and passed by roll call vote to approve the agenda as amended. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Leon Wilson, the Library's new IT Manager, introduced himself to the Board.

**ACTION ITEMS (CONSENT AGENDA)**

Being that John Thies asked and saw that there were no requests to separate the items, it was moved by Shirese Hursey, seconded by Jane Williams, and passed by roll call vote to approve the consent agenda as presented. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

**ACTION ITEMS (INDIVIDUAL)**

It was moved by Michael Weissman, seconded by Barb Bennett, and passed by roll call vote to accept Resolution 2022-02 to thank Eleanore Brown for her years of service. John Thies thanked Eleanore for the work she has done. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

It was moved by Michael Weissman, seconded by Jane Williams, and passed by roll call vote to accept The Urbana Free Library Annual Financial Report for FY21. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

It was moved by Lupe Mejia, seconded by Barb Bennett, and passed by roll call vote to reaffirm the Documented Counseling Policy as presented. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

It was moved by Beth Scheid, seconded by Jane Williams, and passed by roll call vote to approve Resolution 2022-03 to accept the stipend. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

It was moved by Michael Weissman, seconded by Jane Williams, and passed by roll call vote to approve Resolution 2022-04 for the demolition contract with Owens Excavating and Trucking, LLC. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

It was moved by Barb Bennett, seconded by Michael Weissman, and passed by roll call vote to accept the Meijer Grant. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

It was moved by Shirese Hursey, seconded by Michael Weissman, and passed by roll call vote to approve the FY22 Budget Amendments. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

None.

## **REPORTS OF LIAISON OFFICERS**

### *Friends of the Library*

No report.

### *The Urbana Free Library Foundation*

John Thies reported that the Library is Common Ground's Round Up For Good recipient for February. The Foundation has received the preliminary grant request from the Library for funding various activities, including music programs, promotion of the Library, and processing of Archives collections. An in-person donor appreciation event is scheduled for April 23, 2022.

### *Illinois Heartland Library System*

Celeste Choate will send the Board the link to the new IHLS resource page about book censorship and challenges.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

None.

## **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

## **BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT**

John Thies mentioned that the Champaign Urbana Kiwanis Club has approved a plan to support the Little Free Library program focusing on underserved community areas.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:28 p.m. it was moved by Beth Scheid, seconded by Barb Bennett, and passed by roll call vote that the Board move into closed session for the purpose of discussion of approval of minutes of meetings lawfully closed and for the semi-annual review of the minutes pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (21) Section 2.06, and the discussion of approval of the destruction of verbatim records pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2.06 (c) (1). Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen  
Nays: None

At 7:45, John Thies called the meeting back into open session by roll call vote. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen  
Nays: None

### **ACTION ITEMS**

It was moved by Barb Bennett, seconded by Beth Scheid, and passed by roll call vote to approve the closed session minutes of August 10, 2021. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen  
Nays: None

It was moved by Shirese Hursey, seconded by Gloria Yen, and passed by roll call vote to open the closed session minutes of August 10, 2021. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen  
Nays: None

It was moved by Lupe Mejia, seconded by Shirese Hursey, and passed by roll call vote to approve the destruction of the verbatim records from January 14, 2020, February 11, 2020, and March 10, 2020. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies, Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen  
Nays: None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Beth Scheid, seconded by Shirese Hursey, and passed by roll call vote to adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Votes were as follows:

Ayes: Barb Bennett, Shirese Hursey, Lupe Mejia, Mark Pelmore, Beth Scheid, John Thies,  
Michael Weissman, Jane Williams, and Gloria Yen

Nays: None

---

Becky Brown, Recorder

---

Barb Bennett, Secretary/Treasurer

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Supplementary information is available in the Board packet of February 8, 2022.  
This meeting was taped for later broadcast.