

Northfield Township Area Library
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
8/17/2021

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call:
Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by R. Spooner
Present: J. Secrist, G. Hermann, C. Watkins, S. Purrington, L. Strausbaugh
Z. Nelson (Ex Officio), M. Goldwyn (Ex Officio)
- II. Additions to the agenda: None
- III. Correspondence: A "Thank you" card from the staff to the board was presented.
- IV. Approval of Minutes:
A motion to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2021, meeting was made by J. Secrist, seconded by C. Watkins and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2021, Special board meeting minutes was made by S. Purrington and seconded by C. Watkins and was unanimously approved.
- V. Comments from the Public: none
- VI. Library Director's Report:
The director presented the Library Director's Report commenting on:
 - Sick time
 - Inventory
 - Mask policy for staff
- VII. Financial Report:
J. Secrist presented the Financial Report from June and July 2021. Some discrepancies require clarification due to the bank name changes.

A motion to accept both financial reports was made by S. Purrington and seconded by C. Watkins was unanimously approved.
- VIII. Committee Reports:
 - a. Policy Committee report from June 28th was presented:
 - b. Building/Grounds Committee Report from Aug 10th was presented:
(Both reports are covered in Unfinished Business.)

IX. Unfinished Business:

a. Board Statement

A discussion took place regarding the statement presented by the Policy Committee. This resulted in another statement variant and a motion.

A motion to adopt the statement:

"Northfield Township Area Library endeavors to be an open, safe, and welcoming resource to all members of our community. To create an environment that values and promotes diversity, equity and inclusion requires action and engagement. NTAL actively supports and continues to enhance the advancement and celebration of a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment in the library through our diverse collections, inclusive programming, and responsive services offered."

was made by R. Spooner and seconded by J. Secrist.

Yea: J. Secrist, S. Purrington R. Spooner

Nay: L. Strausbaugh, C. Watkins, G. Hermann

Motion failed

A motion to adopt the statement as originally presented by the Policy Committee:

"Northfield Township Area Library endeavors to be an open, safe, and welcoming resource to all members of our community."

was made by G. Hermann and seconded by L. Strausbaugh.

Yea: J. Secrist, S. Purrington, L. Strausbaugh, C. Watkins, G. Hermann

Nay: R. Spooner

Motion Accepted

b. Policy 300.11 (Community Bulletin Board)

A discussion of the policy committee's recommendation regarding changes to Policy 300.11 took place. There was concern that the suggestion to place public postings in an envelope on the bulletin board would logistically be difficult. Also, some government postings are too big to be placed in an envelope.

A motion that the bulletin board will be limited to community-based government announcements while all other postings will go into a binder.

was made by J. Secrist and seconded by R. Spooner.

Yea: R. Spooner, J. Secrist, C. Watkins, S. Purrington

Nay: L. Strausbaugh, G. Hermann

The Policy committee will meet in the near future to draft the new policy

c. Basement

A discussion of the recent basement water leak took place. The problem is severe and urgent. Z. Nelson will get new quotes for the repairs needed.

X. New business:

a. Juneteenth addition to holiday closures:

b. Holiday closure revision to employee handbook:

Z. Nelson discussed revising the library holiday schedule to include the Juneteenth holiday. There was a reference to Michigan Senate Bill SB384 making Juneteenth an official state holiday.

A motion to revise the holiday closure to include June 19th (Juneteenth) was made by S. Purrington and seconded by R. Spooner was approved.

Yea: R. Spooner, J. Secrist, S. Purrington, C. Watkins

Nay: G. Hermann

Abstain: L. Strausbaugh

c. Library hours

Z. Nelson discussed the possibility of reducing the library hours for the fall schedule to ease the workload on the library staff.

A motion to change the closing time for the library on Monday and Wednesday to 6pm for the fall schedule was made by S. Purrington and second L. Strausbaugh and was unanimously approved.

M 10-6

W 10-6

XI. Comments from the Board

J. Secrist asked if the library must close for government holidays. The director indicated that it would require staff to receive time and a half pay.

XII. Comments from public: none

XIII. Adjournment: 8:06 pm

A motion to adjourn was made by G. Hermann and seconded by S. Purrington was unanimously supported.


Gerald Hermann
Secretary Northfield Township Area Library

Date: 9-21-2021