

Rock Hill Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024

Attendees:

In-Person: *(Due to sickness going around, the board decided via email to conduct this meeting primarily as an online meeting via Zoom)*

Zoom: Danielle Oettle, Maggie Kehm, Veronica Crowe, Ryan Shortal, Erin Phelps, Patrick Long, Roxanne Provence, Hannah O'Rourke, Susan Hoch, Diane Madras, Martin Ghafoori, Andrew Kuehler, Karen Park

Absent: Stephanie Van Stee

Roxanne had to leave the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 6:18 p.m. Roll call and introductions.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 8, 2024 meeting. Diane moved to approve the January 8, 2023 open session minutes as presented. Ryan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financial statements as presented by Danielle. No significant issues or questions were raised, and the reports are available in RHPL records.

Approval of Bills

The Board reviewed the Transaction List by Vendor and Unpaid Bills Detail. Diane moved to approve the Transaction List dated February 7, 2024 in the amount of \$17,293.89. Due to the timing of payments, there are no Unpaid Bills for February approval. Karen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Presentations

Andrew Kuehler, Eagle Scout, shared ideas he has for projects he could volunteer to do for the library. He suggested he could do some planting in the planter boxes outside the library. Erin also discussed that the picnic table boards are old and need of replacement. Karen also mentioned that a project to hide the dumpsters for better visual appeal. Erin and Andrew will follow up via email to decide on specific projects and move forward. Andrew stated he fundraises on his own for his projects.

Martin Ghafoori from Stifle presented on the mortgage loan status of RHPL debt and options (general obligation bonds and lease debt options) to restructure. His presentation documents are available in RHPL records. Martin explained that due to the structure of the library's loan for the building mortgage, in 2026 a balloon payment will come due that will drastically increase the library's obligation (payments due increase from approximately \$31,000 in 2024 and in 2025

to approximately \$230,700 in 2026), so options to realign/restructure debt need to be considered and appropriate action taken by RHPL, and some options could require voter approval in an upcoming election, including possible bond options. Martin needs to research more information regarding RHPL existing loan structure and meet with other individuals involved in the original issuance of the existing mortgage loan. No decisions or votes are necessary at this time, but the board needs to research and deal with this in the coming months.

Library Director's Report

In the interest of time, Erin emailed her Director's Report to the Board ahead of the meeting. Climate Masters was able to work on RHPL HVAC systems sooner than expected, and the HVAC work has already been completed. Erin explained about developments with programs, grants, services, legislative issues, and more.

No significant concerns, questions, or objections were raised regarding Erin's Director's Report. The written report, dated February 12, 2024, is available in RHPL records.

Committee Reports

No reports or other presentations.

Communications

No reports or discussions.

The next meeting will be March 11, 2024.

Unfinished Business

Nothing presented or discussed.

New Business

Nothing presented or discussed that required any additional discussion, action, or a vote.

Erin did discuss consideration of policies and fine thresholds for late returns, and also shared some thoughts regarding the 2025 budget, a draft of which was shared with the meeting documents.

Erin also discussed considerations of using the Savannah software from Orange Boy, which is feature-rich and powerful but is also expensive. Erin feels that many of the features of the software are good to have, but she doesn't feel that the benefits of those features are necessarily worth the cost. However, based on the obligations our original contract, we still have use of it for another year, but we have to consider if we want it in the budget for next year.

Ryan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm, and Diane seconded, which passed unanimously. No executive session was held.