

Indian Prairie Public Library  
Board of Trustees Minutes  
Regular Meeting of July 21, 2021

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
July 21, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.**

Executive Order 2020-07 suspends the in-person presence requirements for elected officials and eliminates the limitation on remote access. To provide remote access for Library Trustees while allowing the public to access the Board meeting, we will be hosting our July 21, 2021 meeting via the Zoom platform. Information as to how to listen to the meeting by phone is provided below.

We provide opportunity for public comment at all Board meetings. For this remote access meeting members of the public can share comments by submitting their comments in advance through email by sending them to [directors@ippl.info](mailto:directors@ippl.info) by 6:15 p.m. July 21, 2021. Please indicate this is a Board Meeting comment in the subject or body of the comment. Comments will be read aloud during the public comment section of the agenda and entered into the public record.

Telephone:

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Webinar ID: 825 3228 5893

**A. Roll Call**

President Suriano called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. and stated the following:

“This meeting is held as a virtual meeting given that the governor has declared the coronavirus pandemic a disaster. I have determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or feasible because of the disaster. I have also determined that it is not feasible or practical, due to the disaster and disaster proclamation, to have a library trustee, the library director, or the library's attorney present at the library during the meeting.” Suriano verified that each trustee could hear the discussion. Secretary Megaridis called the roll.

Present: Marian Krupicka, Crystal Megaridis, Themis Raftis, Christina Rodriguez, Victoria Suriano

Absent: Donald Damon, Sri Rao

Staff Present: Laura Birmingham, Maria Wlosinski, Amy Merda, Sarah Zagotta

Others: none

President Suriano asked for additions and/or corrections to the agenda. There were none.

- B. Mission Statement:** Secretary Megaridis read the library mission statement. We enrich people's lives by providing opportunities to explore, connect, and be inspired.

Vision Statement: Secretary Megaridis read the library vision statement. Lives are enriched and dreams are realized.

Values Statement: Secretary Megaridis read the library values statement. We value and respect the individual. We empower and guide each visitor. We aspire to bring people together.

C. Public Comment - none

D. Communications and Announcements

With respect to the Per Capita Grant, Birmingham said that we received almost \$10,000 more than we were expecting. Jessie White lobbied for libraries to get more money. It was suggested that we send an acknowledgment letter to Jesse White from the board.

E. Omnibus Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, June 16, 2021
2. Action on Bills/Additional Bills

Raftis moved, Megaridis seconded to approve the Omnibus Consent Agenda. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Items Deleted from Omnibus Consent Agenda - none

G. Library Director's Report

H. Department Reports

- I. Staff Report – Amy Merda, Mid-Kids Librarian and Sarah Zagotta, Teen and Young Adult Services Librarian introduced themselves to the board and gave a brief background. They are very happy to be here and looking forward to collaborating with other staff members.

J. Reports

1. Treasurer's Report – backup in packet.
2. RAILS – backup in packet.
3. Building and Grounds Committee – no report
4. Finance Committee – no report
5. Planning/Outreach Committee – no report
6. Policy Committee – no report

K. Unfinished Business

1. Renovation Update – We have a walk-through with the contractor on Monday.

L. New Business

1. Proposed Improvements to Landscaping – The landscaping proposal removes plants that are past their prime, cleans up areas, moves some plants, and add new plants, bushes, and trees. Rodriguez moved, Megaridis seconded to approve spending up to \$9,000.00 on landscape improvements. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried unanimously.
2. COVID Policy and Practices – The Board had a lengthy discussion regarding masks at last month's meeting. Since then the CDC came out with new guidelines regarding masking in schools. This was followed by the Illinois Department of Health laying out Guidance for Schools based on the CDC recommendations, and yesterday the DuPage County Health Department issued a statement on prevention strategies in schools. In light of the new guidance, the Board revisited the masking topic. The consensus was that vaccinated people won't be required to wear masks anywhere in the building. Masks will be required throughout the building for unvaccinated people including children 12 and under. The

Board is strongly recommending that masks be worn to protect unvaccinated children. The Board asked if staff have had any negative interactions with patrons over masks.

Birmingham confirmed that there have been several and noted that it's difficult for staff to assist patrons in the youth department while also trying to police who is and isn't wearing a mask. The Board doesn't want staff policing masks. With respect to library signage, they suggested that we strongly encourage people to wear a mask to protect children and immunocompromised people. Megaridis moved, Krupicka seconded to require unvaccinated people, including children 12 and under, to wear a mask in the building. Vaccinated people will not be required to wear a mask in the building. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Library Hours – Megaridis moved, Rodriguez seconded to increase hours beginning August 23 to the following: Monday-Thursday 9-8, Friday-Saturday 9-5, Sunday 1-5. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Library Fines – At the February meeting the Board reviewed a letter from resident Nader Najjar requesting that the library consider discontinuing charging fines for overdue items. The consensus was to table the discussion until after the April election when newly elected trustees would be present. The packet contains Mr. Najjar's letter along with an overview of how a fine-free scenario would work for IPPL. Birmingham noted that if we go to a fine-free policy, then any fines currently owed would be waived. Currently 17,519 people owe a total of \$91,258.00 and of that amount 12,707 people owe \$69,535.00 on fines incurred prior to 2020. Right now a patron's card is stopped when it reaches \$20 in fines. The Board would like a breakdown of the specific items (i.e. books, equipment, Hot Picks, console games) in the overdue categories. They would also like clarification on how fines work for interlibrary loan items. The Board agreed it would be very helpful to have the Head of Guest Services attend the August or September meeting to answer these and other questions. They will table the discussion for now.
5. Adopt Tentative Budget and Appropriations – Rodriguez moved, Raftis seconded to approve the Tentative Budget and Appropriations for FY2021-2022. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Ordinance #2021-3 Determining to Levy an Additional Tax of .02% - Megaridis moved, Raftis seconded to approve Ordinance #2021-3 Determining to Levy and Additional Tax of .02%. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Whistleblower Reporting Amendment – There were no questions or comments regarding the amendment.
8. Appoint Committee to Review Closed Session Minutes and Complete Secretary's Audit – Suriano suggested that one of the new trustees join one of the seasoned trustees to see how the process works. Themis or Rodriguez will do the audit with Krupicka or Suriano.

#### M. Scheduled Meetings

Building and Grounds Committee – meeting dates were discussed. Raftis can't make 8/31 so a meeting is currently planned for 9/2.

N. Adjournment

At 8:20 p.m. Raftis moved, Krupicka seconded to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: Krupicka, Megaridis, Raftis, Rodriguez, Suriano. Nays: none. Absent: Damon, Rao. Motion carried.

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Crystal Megaridis, Secretary