

**NIPPERSINK PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
December 12, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Nippersink Public Library District Board of Trustees at the Nippersink Library, 5418 Hill Road, Richmond, Illinois, was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by President Sandra Peterson.

**PRESENT**

Trustees Adrienne Adams, Robert Johnston, Michelle Jordan, Drew Knobloch, Sandra Peterson, Sue Rekenhaller and Library Director Cynthia Cole were present. Trustee Michelle Carter was absent.

**RECOGNITION OF SECRETARY**

Trustee Rekenhaller was recognized as Secretary. Director Cole volunteered to act as Recorder.

**RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE** – None

**ADDITIONS** –

**MINUTES**

**A. Approve November 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION was made by Trustee Johnston, seconded by Trustee Adams, to approve the November 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

**Voice Vote: All in Favor**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A.** ILA Trustee Workshop – Saturday, February 17 at Chicago Oak Brook Marriott; anyone interested in attending should advise Director Cole so she can send in the registration fee. Attendees should make their own hotel reservations and the deadline for ILA rate is January 26.

**B.** A Thank you letter was sent to Janice Piesens for her generous donation of \$200.00.

**C.** A Thank you letter was sent to the Richmond Garden Club for their generous donation of the Christmas wreath and the container plantings in front of the building.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**A. Approve Warrant #6**

Warrant #6 in the amount of \$14,353.68 was reviewed for payment.

**MOTION was made by Trustee Jordan, seconded by Trustee Rekenhaller, to approve Warrant #6.**

**Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Adams, Johnston, Jordan, Knobloch, Peterson, Rekenhaller  
Nays: None**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## **B. Review Monthly Budget Report**

Director Cole advised that we are approximately \$17,000 under budget for the month ended November 30, 2017. However, we are still waiting for several large invoices including the expansion joint project and the stairwell carpeting.

## **LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Trustee Knobloch asked Director Cole to discuss the decline in circulation over last year. Director Cole advised that while circulation obviously varies from year-to-year and month-to-month, it is important to understand that the library faces a number of challenges. In general, the mission of the public library has fundamentally changed from one of education and information to recreation. Approximately 92% of the items checked out are fiction and media. Non-fiction titles also tend to focus on recreation and self-improvement. Specifically, our library faces challenges around declining population and shifting demographics. School enrollment has declined by nearly 20% since 2010 and will continue to decline. Anecdotally, we know that we have lost a number of our senior patrons, who have either passed away or moved away. These population and demographic shifts will continue for the next decade and beyond while the library will continue to be used as a primarily recreational resource.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Review Serving Our Public, Chapter 12, Safety**

Chapter 12 was reviewed as a requirement for the 2018 Per Capita Grant. The library presented a program to staff on library safety through the McHenry County Sheriff's Department and the Village of Richmond. The presentation focused on active shooter training, but also included components on dealing with the homeless and mentally ill patrons. Based on the presentation, we added locks to several doors that didn't have them and changed the type of locks we had on other doors. We discussed the possibility of panic buttons, but this would be difficult to do since we are located in the county and they dispatch calls to whomever is readily available, whether county or municipal. We also reviewed procedures for fire and weather events.

## **NEW BUSINESS –**

### **A. Discuss Possible Dissolution of NIC Consortium and Options for Alternative Service**

Director Cole advised that the North Suburban Library District (NSLD) began a strategic planning process earlier this year to determine the future of their Integrated Library System (ILS) software capabilities. The ILS essentially runs all aspects of the library environment including cataloging, circulation, acquisitions, interlibrary loan and, on the patron side, the Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC). Director Cole attached the executive summary provided by the NSLD consultant. While we have not received official written confirmation, the NSLD Board has informed the NIC libraries that they intend to withdraw from NIC and move to another consortium.

NSLD is the largest library in the NIC Consortium and they provide services as the contracting library with Innovative Interfaces, the ILS vendor. As the largest library in the group, they also do the majority of lending; approximately 40% of the items borrowed in the consortium come from NSLD. The withdrawal of NSLD essentially means the NIC group is not sustainable as the remaining libraries lack the financial resources to continue.

While we have not yet received official notification from NSLD, it is likely we will be the end of January. At that point, the remaining libraries will need to determine their own future by either

1) moving to a larger consortium such as PrairieCat; 2) trying to continue as currently structured; or 3) going stand alone. Director Cole expressed her opinion that the only really viable option is a move to a larger consortium such as PrairieCat. The NIC group without NSLD isn't viable and we are too small to be successful as a stand alone. In addition, Johnsburg Public Library went live with PrairieCat earlier this month and being on the same platform with them would be a value to our patrons and theirs as most of our reciprocal borrowing traffic is between our two libraries.

Director Cole provided further detail on the history of the library systems' mergers and consolidations and why in 2007 we opted to leave what was then called PALS and become part of the NIC Consortium. While this has worked well for us for the last ten years, it is time to evaluate our options. Director Cole will provide more information as it is received, but in the coming months we will have to begin the process of dissolving NIC and moving to PrairieCat.

**B. Review Policy #400 Collection Development**

Director Cole advised that every two years we need to review our Collection Development Policy. She advised that there were no revisions necessary this year and that the last revision was in 2015 when we removed the reference to the Friends Group after they dissolved. The policy is meant to be fairly generic and addresses the most relevant concerns including selection criteria, deselection and weeding, gifts and memorials, and requests for reconsideration. No action is required other than review of the current policy.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS – None**

**ADJOURN**

**There being no further business, President Peterson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.**

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Cole,

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Theresa Sue Rekenhaller, Secretary