

## DULUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

March 23, 2021

Sue Henke called the meeting of the Duluth Library Board to order at 4:30

**Members Present:** Sue Henke, Michelle Foshay, Lizzy Luoma, Neil Glazman, Stephen Welsh, David Sperl, Matt Rosendahl, Alex Strelow

**Also Present:** Carla Powers, Jim Filby Williams

**Public Attendees:** Debbi Rasmussen, Dennis McManus

**Absent:** Betty Ramsland

### **Review and approve agenda**

Motion by Sperl, seconded by Welsh, to approve the agenda as drafted. Motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

**Public Comments:** Powers received a question about book donations. No donations are being accepted at this time. The library is still holding onto donations from 2020 and there is no room for more. The Friends will not hold their traditional book sale in 2021.

### **Review and approve minutes from February 23, 2021**

Motion by Rosendahl, seconded by Sperl, to approve the minutes as drafted. Motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

### **Reports**

#### Library Manager's Report – Powers

A hiring committee interviewed seven candidates for Librarian II position and an offer to the top candidate is in the works.

A posting to fill seven vacant Library Technician positions will go up as soon as approval is secured to fill the positions.

Research by appointment has been underway with some use of this service.

Grab and Go is being rebranded as “Library Express.”

#### Foundation Report – Rosendahl

Rosendahl encouraged board members to follow the Duluth Library Foundation on social media <https://www.facebook.com/DuluthLibraryFoundation/>

Library Giving Day will take place on April 7, and there is information on the Foundation's website: [www.duluthlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.duluthlibraryfoundation.org)

#### Friends Report—Ramsland

Written report was reviewed with no new updates.

## **Old Business**

### Update on restoring services and staffing:

Eight library aides are being called back to work beginning the week of April 5. The branches will reopen for Library Express service, which includes accessing the collections and self-pickup of holds. Plans are in the works for Mayor Larson to announce this new phase of service in a press conference during National Library Week. The press event is scheduled for Thursday, April 8 at the West Duluth Branch. Library Express service will begin April 12.

## **New Business**

2020 annual report: New fields this year captured all of the virtual programming and curbside services that were added or changed due to the pandemic and closures. Motion by Glazman, seconded by Luoma, to approve the report as drafted. Motion passed unanimously by show of hands.

Election of officers: Rosendahl volunteered to take over as secretary. Henke is willing to continue as president and Ramsland as vice president. Motion by Sperl, seconded by Glazman, to approve the slate of officers. Motion approved unanimously with show of hands.

## **Ongoing Business**

Advocacy: In partnership with Foundation and Friends, some board members will be meeting with Mayor Larson and CAO Schuchman on April 9 (which happens to be the Friday of National Library week). In addition to expressing gratitude for support, they will highlight ECRD goals moving forward, advocate for library reopening, and future building renovations at main.

There was a suggestion to consider an in-person outdoor meeting in June.

Adjournment at 5:46 pm.

Next regular meeting: April 27, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. via WebEx.