

**VINELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – MINUTES  
July 26, 2023**

Board of Trustees President Michael Mainiero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Notice of this meeting had been sent to the Office of the City Clerk, The Daily Journal, The Press, local Vineland Channels, and posted in the library in compliance with the Sunshine Law.

The Administrative Clerk called roll:

Present: Janice Brunet-Girone, Makema Edwards-Douglas, Anthony Lombardo, Aaron Melnick and Michael Mainiero. Also present were Library Counsel Alan Giebner, Business Manager Dr. Luis F. Amberths, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Accounts Melissa Vanes, Administrative Clerk Mary Ann Rada, and members of the public.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Library Counsel Alan Giebner swore in a new Trustee, Aaron Melnick.

**MINUTES**

**June 28, 2023 – Regular & executive sessions**

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, the Trustees moved to approve minutes from the regular and executive session of the June 28, 2023 meeting.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. Edwards-Douglas, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero

**REPORTS OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYMENTS**

**Approval of Financial Reports**

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Ms. Edwards-Douglas, the Trustees moved to approve the Financial Reports, including the June 2023 Treasurer's Report, invoices scheduled to be paid in August, Schedule of Accounts, approval of purchases, and donated monies.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. Edwards-Douglas, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero

**Resolution #2023-021 & Resolution #2023-022 – Approving payment of salaries and benefits to Vineland Public Library employees by the City of Vineland for July 2023**

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, Trustees approved Resolution #2023-0021, authorizing the payment of salaries and benefits to Vineland Public Library employees by the City of Vineland for August 2023, and Resolution #2023-022, approving payment of expenses to vendors by the City of Vineland for June 2023

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. Edwards-Douglas, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero

**UPDATE FROM TRUSTEE COMMITTEES, SOLICITOR AND BUSINESS MANAGER  
Personnel Committee**

The Board will go into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

### **Operations/Building and Maintenance Committee**

Trustees received reports and statistics from the Circulation, Children's, and Reference Departments.

Trustees received a building report from Melissa Vanes with a quote from Johnson Controls.

On a motion made by Ms. Edwards-Douglas, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, Trustees approved the quote from Johnson Controls for the 2024 renewal of the alarm monitoring and the fire alarm inspection.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. Edwards-Douglas, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero

### **Budget Committee**

The budget committee had nothing new to report.

### **Solicitor's Report**

There was no Solicitor's report.

### **Business Manager's Report**

Trustees received a Business Manager's report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Approval of quote for furniture**

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, Trustees approved the quote by Bellia Interiors Group for the library's new furniture for the estimated amount of \$149,837.68, not to exceed \$155,000.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. Edwards-Douglas, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero

#### **Continued discussion about staff's involvement with the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation**

There was continued discussion on staff involvement with Friends of the Library. Trustees received material on how the Friends of the Library work with public libraries. Dr. Amberths told the Trustees that staff has been assisting the Friends with fundraising and that the money made by the Friends' fundraisers has returned to the library. Dr. Amberths said that the staff does not handle money from the book sale; instead, there is a locked box for patrons to place money.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

On a motion by Ms. Edwards-Douglas, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, the Trustees moved to open the meeting to public comment. The motion passed unanimously.

Eric Rodriguez, Vineland resident and former security guard, said he was pleased to see the library moving forward.

Mr. Greenwood, a Vineland resident, was upset by the rated R DVD movies with foul language and requested the library remove them from their collection.

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Ms. Edwards-Douglas, the Trustees moved to close the public comment session of the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Ms. Edwards-Douglas, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, Trustees approved resolution 2023-023 authorizing the Board to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Mainiero, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, the Trustees moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Rada, Administrative Clerk*