

VINELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – MINUTES
June 27, 2024

Board of Trustees President Michael Mainiero called the meeting to order at 5:34 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, Suzette DeMarchi, Devon Land, Anthony Lombardo, Michael Mainiero, Aaron Melnick, Gina Randazzo-Dawkins. Also present were Business Manager Dr. Luis F. Amberths, Jr., Assistant Supervisor of Accounts Melissa Vanes, Administrative Clerk Mary Ann Rada, and President of the Friends of the Library Karen Talarico

Absent: Makema Edwards-Douglas, Jaclyn Mongelluzzo

MINUTES

May 23, 2024 – Regular session

Ms. Brunet-Girone wanted to know where the safety and security policy for the E-sports was. Dr. Amberths said the E-sports room still needs to be completed, and he only has a tentative opening date. He said the Operations Committee needs to meet to make up the policy.

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Ms. DeMarchi, the Trustees moved to approve the minutes from the Board meeting on May 23, 2024.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero; ABSTAIN: Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins

REPORTS OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYMENTS

Approval of Financial Reports

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Melnick, Trustees approved the Financial Reports, including the May 2024 Treasurer's Report, invoices scheduled to be paid in July, the Schedule of Accounts, approval of purchases, and acceptance of donations.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins, and Mr. Mainiero

Resolution #2024-016 – Approving payment of salaries and benefits to Vineland Public Library employees by the City of Vineland for July 2024

On a motion by Mr. Melnick, seconded by Ms. Brunet-Girone, Trustees approved resolution #2024-016, approving the payment of salaries and benefits to Vineland Public Library employees by the City of Vineland for July 2024.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins, and Mr. Mainiero

Resolution #2024-017– Approving payment of expenses to vendors by the City of Vineland for May 2024

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Land, the Trustees moved to approve Resolution #2024-017, authorizing the City of Vineland to pay expenses to vendors for May 2024.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins, and Mr. Mainiero

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

Ms. DeMarchi said Vineland Public School will be holding a Back to School Extravaganza and would like to know if staff would like to attend to represent the Library. It will be held at Gittone School on August 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for children from preschool to twelfth grade.

Operations/Building and Maintenance Committee

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

Budget Committee

There were no updates.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Giebner was not present.

Business Manager's Report

The trustees received a Manager's Report prepared by Dr. Amberths.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve hiring the recommended candidates for the Part-Time Library Assistant positions

Trustees had a lengthy discussion on the recommended candidates and their qualifications. On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Land, Trustees approved the recommended candidates for the part-time Library Assistant positions.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins, and Mr. Mainiero; ABSTAIN: Ms. Brunet-Girone

Approval to replace a part-time Student Assistant with a part-time Library Assistant title and hire from the current round of interviews

Dr. Amberths said that a Student Assistant is resigning to attend college. He is requesting approval to change that position to a Library Assistant, which provides more working hours. He is also requesting permission to hire a candidate from the recent interviews. Some Trustees had reservations about giving up the Student Assistant title because they felt it would take opportunities away from Students starting out in the workforce.

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Mainiero, Trustees approve changing the 15-hour Student Assistant position to a 25-hour part-time Library Assistant title and allowing Dr. Amberths to hire a candidate from the recent interviews.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, and Mr. Mainiero; NOS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, and Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins

Approval to hold a Friends of the Library Book Sale and Craft Fair Fundraiser

On a motion by Mr. Land, seconded by Mr. Melnick, Trustees approved the Friends of the Library Book Sale and Craft Fair to be held at the Library during the month of May 2025

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins, and Mr. Mainiero

Approval to hold a Friends of the Library Mini-Golf fundraiser on January 31 and February 1, 2025

President of the Friends of the Library Karen Talarico explained the details of the Mini Golf fundraiser. She said the Friday night event would be for adults, and the Saturday event would be for families. The Friends request that the Library close early on Friday and all day Saturday during the fundraiser.

On a motion by Mr. Melnick, seconded by Ms. DeMarchi, the Trustees approved closing the Library at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 31, and all day on Saturday, February 1, 2025, to allow the Friends of the Library to hold a Mini-Golf fundraiser.

The Administrative Clerk called roll: YEAS: Ms. Brunet-Girone, Ms. DeMarchi, Mr. Land, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. Melnick, Ms. Randazzo-Dawkins, and Mr. Mainiero

PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Mr. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Mainiero, the Trustees moved to open the meeting to public comment. No members of the public were present. The motion passed.

Ms. Talarico thanked the Board on behalf of the Friend for approving their fundraising requests. She told the Board that the May book and craft sale was a huge success, and they had a record year on the money they made.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Trustees adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Rada, Administrative Clerk*