

**Mount Pleasant Public Library: Board of Trustees Meeting  
Minutes of the Meeting of November 18, 2021 (via Zoom)**

Trustees & Liaisons present: Emil Muccin, Dick Malina, Robert Huerster, Rebecca Myers, Mary Ann Quinn, Julie Edwards, James Riina, Jerry Schulman (Town Liaison)

Also present:

John Fearon, Library Director; Vivian Gufarotti, Assistant Library Director

Trustees & Liaisons absent: Marcie Krauss, Jorge Marmol, David Vinjamuri (Village Liaison)

**Call to order**

Administrative: Trustee Muccin called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the October 21, 2021 Board meeting were approved. Moved by Trustee Huerster, seconded by Trustee Myers, and passed.

**Opportunity to Hear from the Public**

Kathy Schuler, president of the Friends of the Mount Pleasant Public Library, and one member of the Library staff attended the meeting. Ms. Schuler addressed the board concerning the continuation of the book sale.

**Claims of Payment**

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Quinn, and seconded by Trustee Malina, that:  
It is hereby resolved that the Town Comptroller be authorized to:

- Pay all vouchers reviewed and approved by the Director and the Comptroller, for the month of November 2021, for a total of \$67,345.46

**202111-01     The motion passed.**

**Directors Report**

- Library finances are close to budget overall. The library has generally been quiet, as people are not lingering when they have finished their transactions. As the Covid infection rate is rising in Westchester County, the Library aims to keep the doors open by taking sensible precautions, particularly with regard to indoor programming.
- As the Branch Library is very quiet when the Rec Center is empty, Director Fearon proposed trying some “pop-up” scheduling that would coordinate Library hours with

other activities going on in the building. (Town Liaison Schulman will check with the Recreation Director about this possibility.)

- Because of distribution delays the Library has extended the deadline for Master Plan bids to the end of the month. We have had a good response to the RFP so far.
- The Library's establishment of its own IT network at the Branch (and its transition from WLS) continues apace. Supply-chain issues have caused some delays, though Director Fearon anticipates the Branch installation may be completed by mid-December.
- The new iteration of the Library App has required considerable tweaking, but it will be ready for release very soon.
- The Library's no-fine policy is now in effect. The WLS Evergreen system allows for coordination with other libraries that still assess fines. With that issue settled, the Library will be promoting its "fine-free" offerings more vigorously.
- Legacy bequests have benefitted the Library tremendously in the last few years. Director Fearon proposed using funds from the Frey Bequest to underwrite the Master Planning Process, and to use a portion of the Odell Legacy to help fund the first Master Plan project, which is likely to be a Children's Room renovation.

### **Book Sale Discussion**

- The Board's consideration of the Book Sale question highlighted the difficulties of scheduling, given space limitations. The Library's need for storage has greatly increased because of Covid-related requirements. In addition, the Library will be embarking on a Master Planning project, and anticipated renovations will likely mean further space restrictions. In these circumstances and the continuing Covid situation, the Library cannot commit to a spring 2022 book sale. The Board is willing to review the situation mid-year, with the understanding that the space and time allotted for a book sale would necessarily be curtailed.
- Agreeing that a book sale was out of the question for the spring, Ms. Schuler asked the Board to consider where it stands with regard to the book sale in general, and whether it has any appetite for a book sale at some point in the future?

At 7:45 pm, on a motion by Trustee Huerster, seconded by Trustee Quinn, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss a specific matter of personnel.

At 8:15 pm, the Board came out of Executive Session.

Incoming Trustee Eric Neuman briefly joined the meeting around 8:30 pm to introduce himself. Director Fearon spoke about the Library and related some of the issues the Library has recently faced.

Trustee Muccin announced his intention to retire from the Board effective January 2022, having served nine years as vice president and then president.

Trustee Muccin moved for adjournment at 8:50 pm, seconded by Trustee Edwards.

Next regular meeting: Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Quinn  
Secretary