

**AURORA (ILLINOIS) PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF LIBRARY DIRECTORS  
Regular Meeting**

**December 16, 2020**

**Public Act 100-0640 amends the Open Meetings Act to expressly authorize public bodies to meet remotely in certain circumstances without the otherwise required quorum present at the meeting place. The new law requires the head of the public body determine that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a disaster. At least one member of the public body or the Chief Administrator Officer or the Chief Legal Officer must be physically present at the meeting place unless it is not feasible because of the disaster. Michaela Haberkern is present at the library. The library is partially open today, so it is feasible for her to be there. The meeting will be recorded and will be available on the library's website for 30 days and will be archived in our Administrative offices thereafter. The meeting was held via Zoom and viewable on the library's Facebook page. As with all open meetings we provide space for public comments in accordance with the law. For the purposes of this virtual meeting we asked the public to submit their comments via email or voice messages.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** at 6:06 p.m.

President Andrew Smith stated in accordance with the Government Emergency Administrative Act PA100-0640, The Aurora Public Library District Board of Directors find an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the ongoing public health emergency and believes it is in the library's best interest to hold a virtual meeting to perform essential business.

Present: Trustees Delia Nila Basile, Jeffry Butler, Joe Filapek, Melinda Riddick, Eva Serrano, Andrew Smith

Absent: John Savage

Also present were Executive Director Michaela Haberkern, Deputy Director Tom Spicer, Senior Administration Manager Kathleen Fennell, Finance Director Mary Myers, Human Resources Manager Brenda Blough, Communications Manager Miriam Meza-Gotto, Administrative Assistant Kim Gautschi

**ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2020 BOARD MEETING:**

Joe Filapek moved, seconded by Eva Serrano to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2020 Board Meeting.

Yes: Basile, Butler, Filapek, Riddick, Serrano, Smith

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Savage

Motion Carried

**BOARD MEETING 11-18-20 MINUTES APPROVED**

**STAFF REPORTS:** Michaela Haberkern reported Eola Road Branch closed for two days to reconfigure the lobby area for better social distancing. The new layout is more functional. Circulation managers are working with Heather Sturm and Tom Spicer to fully automate the renewals process, where a lot of the person-to-person interaction takes place. It's most visible at Eola Road Branch because it is our busiest location, but there will be benefits at all locations and for all our customers and staff.

Our Holiday Celebrations in Many Lands display is in the windows at Santori facing River Street. We enlarged pictures of all the holiday trees over many years and posted them to provide a bit of holiday cheer for downtown Aurora.

Michaela Haberkern introduced Mary Myers, who will be our new Finance Director upon Kathy Fennell's retirement on January 15, 2021. Mary comes to us with a wealth of experience in public, private, and non-for-profit accounting.

**Public Comments:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Approval of November - December Bills

Delia Nila Basile moved, seconded by Jeffry Butler to approve the monthly expenditures as listed on the Authorization Sheet for the period November 19, 2020 to December 16, 2020 in the amount of \$715,366.53.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Basile, Butler, Filapek, Riddick, Serrano, Smith

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Savage

Motion Carried

**PAYMENT OF BILLS 11-19-20 TO 12-16-20 APPROVED**

Per Capita Grant Requirements

Trustee Joe Filapek reviewed Our Public 4.0: Standards for Illinois Public Libraries Chapter 8 Resource Sharing. Resource sharing consists of three primary categories: 1) Interlibrary Loan, which provides our users the ability to borrow from another library an item that is not in our collection and allows customers from other libraries to borrow from us. 2) Reciprocal Borrowing, which allows a person who holds a valid card from another library to to borrow material on site from us, and vice versa. 3) Reciprocal access, in which the services of libraries are available to everyone in their library system.

Resolution for Kathleen Fennell

Senior Administration Manager, Kathleen Fennell, is retiring effective January 15, 2021. Michaela Haberkern asked the board to approve a resolution honoring Kathy for her service.

Resolution  
Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Aurora Public Library District  
December 16, 2020  
Honoring Kathleen Fennell

*Whereas*, Kathleen Fennell has served the people of Aurora with integrity and professionalism as an employee of the Aurora Public Library District for twenty-six years; and

*Whereas*, her hard work and meticulous oversight has kept the Aurora Public Library District on time and under budget for all of those years; and

*Whereas*, she has seen this library through multiple renovations, migrations, directors and boards; and

*Whereas*, her work in the planning and construction of the Santori Library was critical to its successful completion; and

*Whereas*, her institutional knowledge is legend; and

*Whereas*, she is a trusted colleague and careful steward of public resources; and

*Whereas*, her calm and thoughtful approach is greatly appreciated by all library staff; and

*Whereas*, her genuine passion for the work and the purpose of the library has been of inestimable value to the community; and

*Therefore, be it resolved*, that this Board of Directors expresses its sincere appreciation to Kathleen for her many years of exemplary service to the library.

Passed on this day of December 16, 2020, by the unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of the Aurora Public Library District.

Jeffry Butler moved, seconded by Delia Nila Basile to approve the Resolution honoring Kathleen Fennell.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Basile, Butler, Filapek, Riddick, Serrano, Smith

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Savage

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION HONORING KATHLEEN FENNELL APPROVED**

### EDI Strategic Plan Pillar

Communications Manager, Miriam Meza-Gotto updated the board on the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion pillar. The team has met several times this fall/winter and drafted an overall strategic goal statement, name, and goals for this pillar.

The team proposes “Advancing through Equity: The library supports our community by embedding equity, diversity, and inclusion into every facet of our organization” as the pillar’s name and statement.

Proposed goals would include establishing a more inclusive and equitable working environment, evaluating community needs and developing accountability mechanisms, and ensuring that our services and resources represent a diversity of cultures and perspectives.

The EDI Strategic Plan Team will meet with the board’s ad-hoc strategic plan committee before bringing the pillar to the full board in January.

The team also narrowed down a list of consultants and will bring a recommendation to the committee and the full board as well.

### Resolution 2020-5 Approving Intergovernmental Agreement Confirming Library District’s Obligation to Pay Library Bonds and Authorizing Execution by Board President

The Intergovernmental Agreement and exhibits presented in the board packet confirm the library’s obligation and intent to levy an amount sufficient to pay our bonds in our general fund, and the City’s obligation and intent to abate that amount so that Aurora residents are not taxed twice for the same debt. The county clerks will be looking for something like this to give them certain direction and authority to proceed. The resolution itself both approves the IGA and gives Board President Andrew Smith the authority to execute it, which will allow us and the City to proceed without waiting for the minutes of this meeting to be approved.

Joe Filapek moved, seconded by Delia Nila Basile to approve Resolution 2020-5 Approving Intergovernmental Agreement Confirming Library District’s Obligation to Pay Library Bonds and Authorizing Execution by Board President.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Basile, Butler, Filapek, Riddick, Serrano, Smith

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Savage

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION 2020-5 APPROVING INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT CONFIRMING LIBRARY DISTRICT’S OBLIGATION TO PAY LIBRARY BONDS AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION BY BOARD PRESIDENT APPROVED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Eva Serrano moved, seconded by Melinda Riddick, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Roll call on motion:

Yes: Basile, Butler, Filapek, Riddick, Serrano, Smith

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Savage

Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY**

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Secretary, Board of Directors

Kg