

**Rochester Hills Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting**

November 13, 2023

- I. The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library held a regular meeting on Monday, November 13, 2023. The President called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm in the boardroom of the library. The presiding officer was Madge Lawson.

A quorum of the board was present including Bob Bonam, Melinda Deel, Anne Kucher, and Julianne Reyes.

Chuck Stouffer was absent due to illness, with prior notice given.

Guests included Library Director Juliane Morian and Oakland Township Library President, Michael Tyler and Alice Moo, City of Rochester liaison.

No members of the public were present.

- II. Public Comments – none

- III. Resolution

- A. Ms. Lawson read a proposed resolution in honor of Chuck Stouffer whose term was ending on the library board. The full wording of the resolution is appended to the minutes.
- B. On a motion by Ms. Deel, seconded by Ms. Kucher, the board unanimously approved the resolution with no discussion.

- IV. Minutes

- A. On a motion by Ms. Kucher, seconded by Mr. Bonam, the board unanimously approved the minutes from October 9, 2023 with no discussion.

- V. Treasurer's Report was reviewed and filed.

- VI. Monthly Bills

- A. On a motion by Mr. Bonam, which Ms. Deel seconded, the board unanimously approved the monthly bills for October 2023, which totaled \$393,842.46 with no discussion.

- VII. Communications

- A. The board reviewed and filed the communications, with no significant discussion.

- VIII. Director's Report and Statistical Report

- A. The board reviewed and filed the director's reports, professional conference summaries, and statistical report with no significant discussion.

- IX. Committee Reports

November 2023 RHPL Board Minutes

- A. Centennial Celebration Committee – Ms. Morian stated that library history book would be available for purchase in the library store in early December. Staff members were marching in the Rochester Area Hometown Parade in December, the centennial page on the website would be available by mid-month in December, and that marketing materials would be ordered and available (some for giveaway and some for sale in the store) by January.
 - B. Nominating Committee – Ms. Lawson reported that she appointed Anne Kucher to serve as the Chair of the nominating committee with Ms. Deel assisting.
 - C. Policy Committee – Ms. Lawson reported that the policy committee met on November 6th to consider an enhancement to existing policy, Gov-6 Trustee Code of Conduct. Ms. Morian explained that the proposed enhancements came from the wording that United for Libraries (a division of the ALA) issued called the Public Library Trustee Code of Conduct. While the United for Libraries document includes a signature line as an option for Board members to sign the Code of Ethics, the policy committee felt that it was better to edit the current RHPL Trustee Code of Conduct and weave in key phrases from the United for Libraries Code of Ethics.
 - 1. The board completed a first reading of the proposed enhancements to Gov-6 Trustee Code of Conduct
 - 2. There was general discussion about ambiguity of terms in some of the statements and no stated means to enforce such a policy for elected officials.
 - 3. The board directed Ms. Morian to solicit feedback from the library attorney on proposed changes for a Trustee Code of Conduct/Ethics and provide the board with future direction.
 - D. Director’s Evaluation- Ms. Lawson reported that she has completed a report and sent it to all board members.
- X. Other Business
- A. Ms. Lawson stated that in 2024 she would like to see the Board adopt a calendar with board meeting dates occurring at a consistent time (such as 7pm) without shifting the time to later in the evening during the summer months. Discussion ensued and the board gave tacit approval to meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Ms. Morian will prepare a draft calendar for consideration at the December board meeting.
- XI. Board Comments – none
- XII. Questions from the Liaisons
- A. Mr. Tyler stated he supported aspects of the proposed changes to the Gov-6 Trustee Code of Conduct Policy, and specifically the point that board members respect the role of library director as their one employee and not direct staff regarding library operations.

November 2023 RHPL Board Minutes

- XIII. On a motion from Ms. Lawson, which Ms. Kucher seconded, the board unanimously approved moving to a closed session per Ms. Morian's request to discuss her annual evaluation (per the Michigan Open Meetings Act privilege of closed session for personnel business).
- A. Ms. Morian and guests left the meeting at 8:28pm.
 - B. The closed session convened at 8:30pm.
 - C. The closed session adjourned at 8:53pm.
- XIV. The regular meeting adjourned at 8:54pm

Anne Kucher, Secretary

Rochester Hills Public Library
Board of Trustees
Resolution in honor of Charles Stouffer
November 13, 2023

WHEREAS, Charles (Chuck) Stouffer was first elected to the Board of the Rochester Hills Public Library and started service on December 13, 1999; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer advocated on behalf of the library by attending numerous community events such as the meetings of the Public Library Trustee Association of Oakland County, Community Outlook Breakfasts, the RHPL Volunteer Luncheons, and the Community Prayer Breakfasts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer served at least one term in each of the four offices of the Board during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer chaired various committees such as the Long-Range Planning Committee and the Bookmobile/Facility Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer pursued professional development and best practices by attending the Great American Bookmobile Conference, Patriot Act Workshops, and United for Libraries training sessions; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer has been a noted advocate for Bookmobile service investing volunteer time to research and acquire the first bookmobile vehicle at Rochester Hills Public Library in 2003-2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer has supported the patron experience at the library by advocating for improvements both small and large; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer was one of the first champions of a school-library partnership for virtual library cards for all students in the service area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stouffer was instrumental in overseeing the 2015 building expansion of the Rochester Hills Public Library and parking lot improvements; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure of service Mr. Stouffer witnessed tremendous change and growth of the library landscape. Beginning his term in the library's 75th anniversary year and culminating in the 100-year anniversary plans, during Mr. Stouffer's time as a trustee he collaborated with three different library directors, implemented thoughtful policy changes, and voted to adopt improvements in technology, material formats, and access services through the years; and

WHEREAS, the Rochester Hills Public Library Board appreciates the resolute work of Mr. Stouffer to achieve a high-quality public library system for the residents of Rochester Hills, City of Rochester, and Oakland Township during his tenure as trustee; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

The Board of Trustees of the Rochester Hills Public Library extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Chuck Stouffer for twenty-four years of library service, and wishes him good health and great happiness in the future.

AYES: Bonam, Deel, Kucher, Lawson, Reyes

NAYS: None

Resolution Declared Adopted

Anne Kucher, Secretary