

Auburn Hills Public Library

APPROVED

AUBURN HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 2, 2012

Location: Small Meeting Room, Auburn Hills Public Library
3400 E. Seyburn Drive
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326

- 1. Call to Order:** President Ben Sebrowski called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call:** Present: Ben Sebrowski, VeRonica Mitchell, Toni Whitley, Angela River
Absent: None
Also Present: Stephanie McCoy, Library Director
Guests: 0

3. Acceptance of the Agenda:

Moved by President Sebrowski to accept the agenda as presented.

Supported by Ms. River.

Vote: Yes: Sebrowski, Mitchell, Whitley, River

No: None

Motion Carried (4-0)

4. Public Comment – None.

5. Swearing In – Tina Spurlin

City Clerk Terri Kowal swore Tina Spurlin in as a Library Board Member.

6. On Going Business

(a) Second Round Interview – Term Ending November 2017

President Sebrowski thanked Ms. Douglas for returning for a second interview and introduced newest Board Member Spurlin.

Reanna Douglas

1. President Sebrowski: As we have a new member of the Board sitting in on our interview, please tell us about yourself; specifically your professional background, community involvement, hobbies and other interests.

Ms. Douglas: Explained she is 21 years old, she is studying Public Administration at O.U. and is in her fourth year. She is the secretary of the TIFA Board and has been on the Board for the last two years. She takes the minutes for the Historical Society and is a graduate of Avondale High School. She is applying to Wayne State law school and is very involved in the community.

She enjoys playing golf, tennis and has been the team president of the traveling lacrosse team for O.U.

2. Ms. Mitchell: How did you hear of this open position on the Library Board?

Ms. Douglas: Assistant City Manager Tom Tanghe told her there was a position open and suggested she apply.

3. Ms. River: Why do you feel you are the best candidate for appointment to the Library Board? What makes you stand out?

Ms. Douglas: Her age makes her stand out; she is younger and learns quickly and can process information quickly. She is familiar with budget and finance and is being trained with the most recent information available.

4. Ms. Whitley: What do you think that your top three priorities of concern or interest would be if chosen as a trustee?

Ms. Douglas: She would manage the budget and promote the mission with the best service; up-to-date and meeting the community's needs.

5. Tell us about a situation you experienced that resulted in a conflict of interest? What approach did you exercise to address the situation?

Ms. Douglas: She stated that she helped out at the Farmer's Market as marketing master and had to leave because her ties with the TIFA Board created a conflict of interest.

6. President Sebrowski: The Board of Trustees is an elected governing body, and as such it is independent from other local boards, councils, and commissions. How would you address a concern shared with you by a neighboring elected official or city staff member regarding a practice or incident at the Library?

Ms. Douglas: She would be cordial and explain the situation; she would clarify what the initial concern was.

7. Ms. Mitchell: As you know, this is a difficult time financially for any tax supported agency. The Library Board has had to make some difficult decisions to combat declining revenues. What are your financial priorities for the Library?

Ms. Douglas: Provide multi-media and books supplying new products, but limited to not over buying.

8. Ms. River: How have you been involved within the community? If possible, please provide specific dates or events and actions as an individual or volunteer that have added value to our quality of life in the community. How do you see these affiliations possibly being complimentary to the Library?

Ms. Douglas: She was raised by her grandparents and after her grandmother passed away, she organized a 5k run in her grandmothers honor, which is ran annually. She has been on the Executive Board of the National Honor Society and has done a great amount of public service for different events in Auburn Hills.

9. Ms. Whitley: What additional value can you add from your connection to affiliations or organizations?

Ms. Douglas: She isn't sure if there is anything else to add.

10. Ms. Spurlin: As a Board Member, how would you handle a disgruntled employee that approaches you with an issue regarding their immediate supervisor or the Library Director?

Ms. Douglas: She would relay the message to the superior and make sure everyone involved remains calm. Follow-up is necessary, not to let anyone feel they have been ignored.

11. President Sebrowski: Being a Member of the Board of Trustees sometimes offers the opportunity to work in a team environment (with the Full Board or with a small portion of the Board as part of a committee). Could you give us at least one example of a successful team project you were involved in and did you learn anything from the experience that has helped or will help you in future team projects? Please elaborate. **What role do you prefer to play in a community environment?**

Ms. Douglas: In her classes there are many team projects and she is drawn to be the leader. On her lacrosse team she was president and it was a national traveling team that took a lot to make up the schedule and to keep things in order. She enjoys the leadership roles.

12. President Sebrowski: Is it your intention to stand for election at the next City election (November 2013)?

Ms. Douglas: As of now, yes she plans to run again.

President Sebrowski explained she will be contacted within the next week or so and thanked her for coming.

Library Director reintroduced Scott McCallister.

President Sebrowski thanked Mr. McCallister for returning for another interview and explained Ms. Spurlin is the newest Board Member

1. President Sebrowski: As we have a new member of the Board sitting in on your interview, please tell us about yourself; specifically your professional background, community involvement, hobbies and other interests.

Mr. McCallister: He was manager the Bridgewater Apartments in Clarkston, he worked in a bank, the auto industry and international trade. He plays softball as well as teaching boys youth softball. He volunteers for City functions and O.U. Cares for Autistic children and adults and is in the training and development study at Oakland University.

2. Ms. Mitchell: How did you hear of this open position on the Library Board?

Mr. McCallister: He visits the website frequently as well as well as the posting on the front door of the Library.

3. Ms. River: Why do you feel you are the best candidate for appointment to the Library Board? What makes you stand out?

Mr. McCallister: He feels he is the best candidate because he is approachable and diplomatic. He also has a sense of humor which is sometimes necessary. Also, he likes collaborative effort, everyone being involved.

4. Ms. Whitley: What do you think that your top three priorities of concern or interest would be if chosen as a trustee?

Mr. McCallister: He would like to see the web site improved; investigate why some items can be held for patrons and others can't be and to make it consistent; and for a partnership with Oakland University.

5. Ms. Spurlin: Tell us about a situation you experienced that resulted in a conflict of interest. What approach did you exercise to address the situation?

Mr. McCallister: When he was serving his second term for the Waterford Coach's Association, it turned out that the new president was a racist. He completed his term and then never returned.

6. President Sebrowski: The Board of Trustees is an elected governing body, and as such it is independent from other local boards, councils, and commissions. How would you address a concern shared with you by a neighboring elected official or city staff member regarding a practice or incident at the Library?

Mr. McCallister: He would help or direct the person to the proper person for an answer if he didn't know.

7. Ms. Mitchell: As you know, this is a difficult time financially for any tax supported agency. The Library Board has had to make some difficult decision to combat declining revenues. What are your financial priorities for the Library?

Mr. McCallister: Try to meet the needs of the community, and still being financially responsible.

8. Ms. River: How have you been involved within the community? If possible, please provide specific dates or events and actions as an individual or volunteer that have added value to our quality of life in the community. How do you see these affiliations possibly being complimentary to the Library?

Mr. McCallister: He has been involved with the City for the past two to two and a half years with different City departments and at the YMCA at Christmas time with the kids.

9. Ms. Whitley: What additional value can you add from your connection to affiliations or organizations?

Please elaborate.

Mr. McCallister: He has worked with the United Way, Habitat for Humanity.

Ms. Mitchell asked if he preferred working with kids or adults.

Mr. McCallister explained he enjoys working with kids the most but he understands the needs of adults.

10. Ms. Spurlin: As a Board Member, how would you handle a disgruntled employee that approaches you with an issue regarding their immediate supervisor or the Library Director?

Mr. McCallister: Ask questions to determine where the complaint is coming from; let them air their complaint, many times just listening will resolve the situation. If there is more to it, then take it to the Board for further investigation.

11. President Sebrowski: Being a member of the Board of Trustees sometimes offers the opportunity to work in a team environment (with the full Board or with a small portion of the Board as part of a committee). Could you give us at least one example of a successful team project you were involved in and did you learn anything from the experience that has helped or will help you in future team projects? Please elaborate. **What role do you prefer to play in a community environment?**

Mr. McCallister: He has been involved in many projects. He likes leadership roles, but he also knows when to step back and let someone else share in the leadership role. He can adapt and give everyone a chance. He was involved in the Trunk or Treat Program.

12. President Sebrowski: Is it your intention to stand for election at the next City election (November 2013)?

Mr. McCallister: He would be interested in pursuing the chance.

President Sebrowski thanked Mr. McCallister and stated he would be hearing from the Board soon.

7. Adjournment

Moved by Ms. Mitchell to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

Supported by Ms. River

Vote: Yes: Sebrowski, Mitchell, Whitley, River, Spurlin

No: None

Motion Carried (5-0)