

Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees of the Orland Park Public Library held on April 15, 2019.

Vice President Leafblad made the motion to go into Executive Session at 7:48 P.M. to consider evidence and testimony presented in open hearing regarding the suspension of library privileges of a patron. Secretary Kleis seconded.

Roll call as follows: President Barcelona – Aye; Treasurer Jennings – Aye; Trustee Healy – Aye; Trustee McMillan – Aye; Vice-President Leafblad – Aye; Trustee McShane- Aye; and Secretary Kleis – Aye.

Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Vice President Leafblad made the motion to begin executive session. Secretary Kleis seconded the motion. President Barcelona called the meeting to order with a roll call as follows: President Barcelona – Aye; Treasurer Jennings – Aye; Trustee Healy – Aye; Trustee McMillan – Aye; Vice-President Leafblad – Aye; Trustee McShane - Aye and Secretary Kleis – Aye.

Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays, 0 absent.

Others present: Library Director Mary Weimar, Mary Adamowski, Assistant Library Director and Attorney Dennis Walsh from Klein Thorpe and Jenkins.

Summary of Discussion

Attorney Walsh explained that the Board had listened to both Administration's and Mr. Robert Hinton's versions of why he was banned from the building for a period of six months until September 1, 2019. The Board was to come to a consensus as to whether this suspension stayed or not; or was changed in any way. Trustee Leafblad suggested a three month suspension, and a three month probationary period. Trustee McMillan agreed with Vice President Leafblad about shortening the suspension period because of the assumption that Mr. Hinton needs to use the library's materials and services. Trustee McShane stated that Mr. Hinton did not apologize at any time, and Trustee McShane said Mr. Hinton seemed to be getting more agitated as time went on during the meeting; and Mr. Hinton had acted badly several times. Trustee McMillan agreed that Mr. Hinton's behavior was threatening and the safety of the staff and patrons was very important. Treasurer Jennings stated it was unsettling to know that young children were scared by the patron's disruptive behavior. Secretary Kleis expressed his concern that the police had to be called to intervene, while Trustee McShane stated his concern was that patrons felt the need to call the police because of the patron's behavior. Trustee Healy said that our library has rarely suspended services for a patron due to behavior and it seems that Mr. Hinton's unacceptable behavior in a short span of time must have warranted it. Director Weimar stated that only one person has received a letter of suspension that she recalls, in the past five years or so. Trustee McMillan said that Mr. Hinton's poor behavior must have consequences so he realizes the importance of following the library's Patron Behavior Policy. Trustee Healy mentioned that other libraries are near by and can be used by the patron during the suspension period. Other trustees agreed with her statement. Director Weimar mentioned Mr. Hinton could use the after-hours lockers, as well. Trustee Healy stated she supports the staff 100% and does not want them to be afraid of any patrons. Assistant Library Director Adamowski said this particular patron upset many staff members and patrons during his recent visits. After more discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that for the safety of patrons and staff, the suspension would stand. Attorney Walsh said Mr. Hinton is still allowed to come to board meetings despite his suspension. He may not enter the library building at any other time, but his library privileges have not been suspended. Attorney Walsh stated he would compose the letter stating Mr. Hinton would be banned from the building until

September 1, 2019, except when attending any Board or Board Committee meetings open to the public; and library services would still be available through online or locker access.

Vice President Leafblad made the motion to go out of Executive Session at 7:57 P.M. Treasurer Jennings seconded the motion with a roll call vote as follows: Trustee Barcelona – Aye; Trustee Leafblad – Aye, Trustee Healy – Aye; Trustee Jennings – Aye; Trustee McMillan – Aye; Trustee McShane- Aye; and Trustee Kleis – Aye.

Motion passed 7 Ayes; 0 nays; 0 absent~~s~~

Approved: _____

Date: June 20, 2019