

**DULUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**January 28, 2020**

**Call to Order:** David Sperl called the meeting of the Duluth Library Board to order at 4:35 on January 28, 2020.

**Introductions unnecessary.**

**Members Present:** Lizzy Luoma, Michelle Foshay, Stephen Welsh, and David Sperl.

**Also Present:** Carla Powers (Library Manager), Debbie Rasmussen (League of Women Voters) and John Ramos.

**Absent:** Matt Rosendahl, Betty Ramsland, Neil Glazman, and Sue Henke

Agenda approved by voice consent.

**Public Comments:** No comments.

**Review and approve minutes from November 26, 2019.**

Motion by Luoma, seconded by Foshay, to approve the minutes as drafted. Motion approved unanimously.

**Reports:** Accepted as submitted.

Library Manager's Report – Powers

Discussed partnership with Northland Foundation to add a “baby storytime” program with a social/emotional focus. Currently it's on the schedule at Mount Royal for eight weeks.

Trustee Workshop – Welsh

Steve Welsh gave a verbal report on the workshop he attended last December in Two Harbors. It was attended by representatives of various libraries within the Arrowhead Library System. Welsh brought back two copies of the Minnesota Public Library Trustee Handbook that were given out at the workshop. Powers will pass along a link to the handbook online.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business**

Every Child Ready Duluth Project Update In November we met Carmella Hatch, the early literacy librarian. The library is now hiring a Library Technician and applying for an AmeriCorps Vista position. A consultant who has a background in early literacy and an understanding of community coalition work has been selected to develop a strategic plan for ECRD. Her name is Amanda Standerfer, and she is a librarian from Illinois.

Staff are forming a smaller steering committee to help direct the work of the broader community coalition.

### Library's 2020 Goals

Powers provided a handout listing the library's five overarching goals and actionable items detailed for each goal

Goal Overview:

Goal 1: Prioritize early literacy services and resources to increase the school readiness of Duluth's children.

Goal 2: Build the library's capacity to fulfill its mission.

Goal 3: Shift the library's service model to increase opportunities for staff to teach and inspire users.

Goal 4: Enhance current library services to better serve community needs.

Goal 5: Raise public awareness of the library to increase use of the range of services.

Sperl inquired about finding a way to measure staff time saved by eliminating fines under goal #3. Rasmussen asked about opting into an e-newsletter. Powers said she'd get back to the board with an answer.

### **Ongoing Business**

#### Library advocacy

The 2020 budget is in place, with an increase in library funding for Every Child Ready Duluth. Sperrl will follow up with Rosendahl on drafting a letter to acknowledge bathrooms, elevator, and gains/steps taken for ECRD.

Adjournment

**Next regular meeting: February 25, 2020 at 4:30 at Mount Royal.**