

# MORRISON-TALBOTT LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## 22 NOVEMBER 2021 MINUTES

The Morrison-Talbott Library Board of Trustees met on Monday, 22 November 2021 at 6:31 p.m. in the library and via Zoom. President, Ken Perkins presided. Trustees present included:

Vickie Gardner P  
Phillip Kelley A  
Kenneth Perkins P

Sharon Glessner P  
Andrew Mayer P  
Judith Tomlinson A

James Hopkins P  
Jared Nobbe P  
Rita Trantham A

Others Present: Jamie Wratchford, Library Director.

As there were no amendments, Andy Mayer moved to approve the agenda. Sharon Glessner seconded the motion. Motion carried with Gardner, Perkins, Glessner, Mayer, Hopkins and Nobbe voting “aye.”

There was no public comment.

Vickie Gardner made a motion, seconded by Andy Mayer, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes from the 25 October 2021 meeting, November 2021 bills and October 2021 financial reports. Motion carried with Gardner, Perkins, Glessner, Mayer, Hopkins and Nobbe voting “aye.”

There was no report from the Friends of the Library.

Jamie summarized the Director’s Report, highlighting that the library has been awarded an additional \$3,000 from the American Library Association for Round III of the Libraries Transforming Communities Grant program. These funds will be used to construct memory care kits for those on the dementia spectrum. Other key points of interest include the library’s contract with EBSCO to add two databases: Fold3, which will grant patrons access to the National Archives and military records, and Newspapers.com World Collection, which will grant patrons access to historical newspapers from around the world, including those Columbia and Waterloo newspapers digitized this year. Both databases can be accessed by patrons from home. Finally, Jamie highlighted donations to the library from the Prairie Porcelain Painters and All-Type Tree Service.

### Committee Reports:

Personnel: No Report  
Budget and Finance: No Report  
Building and Grounds:  
Bylaws and Long-Range Plan:  
Col. Morrison Home: No Report  
District Library: No Report  
Ethics: No Report  
Public Relations and Marketing: No Report  
Technology: No Report

In new business, Jamie introduced a new library consortium, Illinois Libraries Present, comprised of libraries throughout the state of Illinois with a common mission to bring quality programming to our libraries at an affordable price. A trial period from 1 January – 30 June, 2022, will allow our patrons access to 6 virtual author events for a total cost of \$75.00. After the six-month trial period, the program will be re-evaluated. After some discussion, Sharon Glessner made a motion, seconded by Vickie Gardner, to sign the intergovernmental agreement to join the pilot trial period of Illinois Libraries Present and to reevaluate this pilot at the end of the trial period before moving forward. Motion passed with Gardner, Perkins, Glessner and Nobbe voting “aye.”

Ken Perkins shared that Waterloo Mayor Tom Smith has requested that all library trustees who have not taken FOIA/OMA training do so at their earliest convenience. Certificates of completion should be provided to Jamie to retain in the trustee file. Jamie will send information on this training out to all board members. If the training has been completed in the past, it is not necessary to repeat, although a refresher may be valuable.

Jamie shared with trustees the results of the library’s recent Community Conversations and the associated survey, “What Can the Library Do for Waterloo and You?” These conversations were completed using funding from Round II of the American Library Association’s “Libraries Transforming Communities” grant program. As required by the program, survey results must be shared in the near future with the community. Jamie encouraged each trustee to review the full results on their own. To further the discussion of the future purpose of the Col. Morrison Home, Jamie directed the board’s attention to the feedback received from survey participants regarding possible uses of the home. Jamie shared photos of similar homes which have been converted into children’s museums, and also shared other libraries’ revenue-producing plans for their meeting rooms and library annexes. Trustees discussed community suggestions, including a coffee shop, meeting spaces, event rental, a children’s museum, a history museum and as a library annex housing a portion of the library collection.

With the Mayor’s support, the library has been encouraged to apply for the “Rebuild Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Grant Program,” funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The Monroe County, Illinois, Economic Development Corporation will assist with the grant application, due 10 January 2022.

President Ken Perkins encouraged discussion and asked each trustee for input. Jamie shared that meeting room demand is at an all-time high for the library. Jim Hopkins confirmed that numerous scout and veteran organizations lack meeting space. Affordable rental space is also lacking in our community. Jamie also shared that patrons often share that they lack places to gather, collaborate and share experiences with fellow citizens. After some discussion, Ken Perkins called for a motion. Jim Hopkins made the motion for the library to move forward with the grant application with the intent of making the Col. Morrison Home fully accessible and available to the community as a center for gathering. Jared Nobbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with Gardner, Perkins, Glessner Mayer, Hopkins and Nobbe voting “aye.”

The next Morrison-Talbott Library Board of Trustees regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, 24 January 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. The library board does not meet during the month of December. All trustees shared in their wishes for a happy holiday season. Andy Mayer made a motion,

seconded by Sharon Glessner, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with Gardner, Perkins, Glessner, Mayer, Hopkins and Nobbe voting "aye." Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.