

Law Library Board of Trustees Minutes

Annual Meeting – June 30, 2022 (held via Zoom)

Present: Hon. Patrick Robben (President of the Board), Mike McCarthy (Vice-President of the Board), Angela Conley (Hennepin County Commissioner), Hon. Joe Klein, Tom Walsh

Absent: Hon. Nelson Peralta, Lisa Marie Buck

Also Present (Non-voting): Karen Westwood (Law Library Director), Patti Hetrick (Hennepin County Library CFO), Dan Rogan (Interim Hennepin County Library Director)

Vice-President of the Board Mike McCarthy called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and welcomed Judge Klein as the newest trustee. Judge Robben joined the meeting at 12:06 (technical difficulties) and took over at that point.

Adoption of Minutes

Commissioner Conley moved approval of last year's minutes (dated July 29, 2021); Mike McCarthy seconded. Judge Klein abstained. Approved.

Elections

Vice-President of the Board Mike McCarthy nominated Judge Robben to continue as President. Judge Klein seconded. Approved unanimously. Judge Klein nominated Mike McCarthy to continue as Vice-President. Commissioner Conley seconded. Approved unanimously.

Approval of 2021 Receipts and Disbursements and 2023 Budget Request

Mike McCarthy moved approval of 2021 receipts and disbursements and the 2023 budget request, Commissioner Conley seconded. Patti Hetrick, Hennepin County Library CFO was present to respond to questions regarding the budget.

Approved unanimously.

Director's Report

Director Westwood reported on 2021, highlighting the reopening of the law library to the public in September 2021. Short explanation of memo regarding Minn. Statutes 357.021 which was recently modified by the legislature, but which is not likely to significantly impact the collection of filing fees.

The law library hired Allie Sanford in late 2021 to receive and process law library materials and hired Marlina Okechukwu into a newly configured Outreach Coordinator position in the first half of 2022. These hires bring the law library to full staff for the first time in several years which will allow the law library to continue to grow programs.

Service to the jail continues and twice as many jail requests came in in 2021 as had come in in either 2019 or 2020.

The CLE programs continue successfully in an online format and on-demand CLEs are now being offered. The most recent CLE (Watergate at 50 presented by Marshall Tanick) drew over 200 attendees.

Discussion of Subscriber Fee Income Trends

Director Westwood made note that subscriber income has been trending downward over the past several years, but did not make a recommendation to raise the annual subscriber fee at this time. Board members discussed the trend and noted that any decision to raise the subscriber fee should allow adequate time for firms to include it in upcoming budgets. The law library will continue to track that income.

Greetings from Interim Hennepin County Library Director Dan Rogan

Interim Library Director Rogan brought greetings from the public library system and emphasized the ongoing and collaborative work between the public library and law library.

Vice-President McCarthy moved to adjourn, Commissioner Conley seconded and the meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.