

**Ramsey County Library Advisory Board Meeting**  
**May 15, 2024**  
**Ramsey County New Brighton Library**  
**2576 Mounds View Blvd., Mounds View, MN 55112**

**LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD PRESENT:** Sandy Doubek, Marissa Kirby-Stofferahn, Alex Kovarik, Kami Miller, Andrea West.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Pang Yang, Library Deputy Director; Jeff Eide, Senior Branch Manager; Nicole Herold, Technical Services Manager; Chuck Wettergren, Digital Services Manager; Marcus Lowry, Mounds View Branch Manager; Maggie Soukup, Library Board Coordinator.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Kirby-Stofferahn called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Yang welcomed and introduced new board members Sandy Doubek and Alex Kovarik.

**ACTIONS ITEMS**

**Approval of the May 15 meeting agenda**

The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

**Approval of the March 20 meeting minutes**

Miller made a motion to approve the March 20 meeting minutes as presented. West seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Donation Acceptance**

West made a motion to accept the donations made to the Ramsey County Libraries as presented. Miller seconded the motion.

**June Meeting**

Yang shared that the June meeting date falls on a County Holiday, Juneteenth, so the libraries will not be open. Board members reviewed the upcoming agenda items and considered the possibility of changing the meeting date. A unanimous decision was made to cancel the June meeting.

Miller made a motion to cancel the June 19, 2024, Library Board meeting. West seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Mounds View Branch Tour**

Marcus Lowry, Mounds View Branch Manager, gave the board members a tour of the branch.

## **Collections Development**

Nicole Herold, Technical Services Manager, shared the proposed changes to the Collections Development policy. There are 22 Librarians that are tasked with collection development for the RCL system. Herold explained the importance of the policy and how the proposed changes are a direct reflection on what is currently happening in our libraries and what our patrons are requesting and how they are making the requests. Herold also shared that one goal for the Ramsey County Libraries collection development team is to increase racial equity in our collections. Last quarter, approximately 34% of materials purchased is by or about people of color.

In addition to the proposed policy changes, the board also discussed the American Library Association (ALA) Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read Statement, and Freedom to View statement.

## **UPDATES**

### **Deputy Library Director Update**

**Deputy Director Yang shared the following updates:**

- Starting later this summer, Mounds View, Shoreview, and Maplewood will be offering free, non-perishable food bags for patrons.
- Roseville library hosted Katherine Applegate, Newbery Medal-winning author, on May 14. There were over 300 people in attendance. Applegate spoke to the audience, answered questions, and signed books.
- Continuing the hiring process for many open positions. Yang shared that the Deputy Director position should be posted in the next few weeks.

## **FUTURE MEETING TOPICS**

- **Update on Summer Reading Program.**
- **Be SMART and/or similar group or organization.**
- **Ramsey County Library Friends**

## **ADJOURN**

West made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Doubek seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.