

**Rock Island Public Library Board
Community & Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 4:30pm
Rock Island Public Library – Watts-Midtown Branch**

Type of Meeting: Board Community & Planning Committee

Meeting Facilitator: Karen Phillips

Committee Chair Phillips called the meeting to order at 4:35pm.

In Attendance – Karen Phillips, Elizabeth Russell, Dr. Yolanda Grandberry Pugh; Library Director, Angela Campbell; Publicity/Outreach Liaison, Lisa Lockheart.

Public Comment - None

Old Business – Strategic Planning

The Committee reviewed the raw survey results and discussed the following themes:

- Additional later hours requested
- A general appreciation for Adult and Young Adult program opportunities
- Socialization opportunities for all ages
- Responses match statistics
- Overall want/need is print and electronic materials

Angela provided a short recap of the Community Conversations, noting that they pretty much followed the survey data. She pointed out that the meeting at the Southwest Branch brought some very significant ideas, such as partnering with Rockridge schools.

Mission Discussion: The Committee reviewed the old mission and compared it to the draft mission from the staff strategic planning committee. They liked most of the draft, except they felt that it needed to still have the line “makes our community stronger.” Director Campbell will bring their suggestion back to the staff committee.

Vision Brainstorming

- The staff strategic planning committee was working with the phrasing of “Enhancing community vitality” – The Board Committee was unsure what that meant, but the staff really liked it.
- Director Campbell presented information about “What’s our why?” The Committee responded that access to information and literacy were important, but that those are “what” we do. Why do we do it, and why does that make people want to use us over other resources? It was a very long discussion that ultimately ended with the theme that people need to know what they can do here and why the library should be their first choice for resources. Director Campbell will continue to work with the staff committee on visioning exercises.
- Other visioning words from the meeting included:
 - Opportunity
 - Modeling Education
 - Literacy
 - Discovery

Values Brainstorming

- From the staff committee:
 - Freedom to read, listen, and view.
 - Offer safe spaces where all are welcome.
 - Sparking curiosity.
 - Fostering joy.
- From the Board committee:
 - All are welcome
 - Enthusiasm
 - Access

The Committee quickly looked at the Strategic Theme - TREES (Transformative, Relevant, Equitable, Engaged, Sustainable), and potential “big picture” goals. Brainstorming Ideas included:

- Mental Health
- Education (aligning youth services with curriculum; weave the library into school lesson plans)
- Outreach
- Complement efforts of the community
- Partnering with CREW on sustainability issues

Next Steps

With new board members sets to begin in May and a potential change in committees, the group decided to set a June Committee Meeting at the May Board of Trustees meeting.

Director Campbell announced that she will forward any relevant cross-tabulations received from the survey. She also asked the committee to search for “themes” in the data to drive the goals, objectives, and tasks

New Business - None

Other Business - None

*Closed Session – None

Information Sharing – None

Announcements – Everyone thanked Committee Chair Phillips for leading the committee, and invited her to continue attending meetings as a member of the public.

Committee Chair Phillips adjourned the meeting at 5:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Campbell, Director