FOX RIVER GROVE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES – BOARD BRIEFS Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Library, 407 Lincoln Avenue, Fox River Grove

This is a summary of Board action not part of the consent agenda items (routine monthly business approvals). Regular session minutes will be approved according to Open Meetings Act guidelines and posted at frgml.org.

Trustees should let Director Komala know if they want to attend the LACONI Annual Trustee Banquet. The registration deadline is May 10, 2025.

An Attorney Memo regarding Board Transition Following Consolidated Election states that the terms for elected and re-elected Trustees begin on May 19, 2025. Outgoing Trustee Green's last board meeting will be April 15, 2025. The board may discuss nominating a new slate of officers at the April 15, 2025 board meeting for a May 20, 2025 board meeting vote. OMA and FOIA certifications are required for new trustees and every four years for current trustees per the Library's bylaws.

President Augle was pleased to see the Friends of the Library pledge \$1,500 towards the all-ages community Summer Reading Picnic. Director Komala asked the board to mark their calendars for July 26, 2025 for picnic. The Library has sponsorships from the FOL and the Lions Club to host the event at Lions Park. They are also reaching out to the Fox River Grove Rec Council and other community organizations for their participation. Komala is anticipating closing the Library on the day of the picnic and having as many staff as possible work at the picnic. Trustees are encouraged to volunteer at the picnic.

President Augle praised Youth Services Manager Johnson and Youth Services Programmer Dimmick for their outreach to ARS. Johnson shared thank you notes the 3rd graders made for them.

Director Komala noted that Library Lovers Expedition is going well even though attendance numbers are lower across all participating libraries. She noted no particular traffic pattern and expects to see numbers increase in LLE's final days. Adult Services Manager Kaiser noted how LLE patrons are coming in because they love libraries and want to touch/play/explore our Library. Trustee Christianson passed along the information that a friend had favorable things to say about LLE.

Director Komala informed the board that Free Comic Book Day is now going to focus on a family program. Trustees may volunteer if they wish but will no longer be needed to judge a costume contest. Trustees are to let Johnson or Dimmick in Youth Services know if they would like to volunteer.

Youth Services Manager Johnson and Director Komala praised Youth Services Assistant Programmer Tippery for her special tea party storytime coinciding with the release of Jan Brett's new book, <u>Alice in Winter Wonderland</u>. Patrons came dressed in costumes.

Director Komala reminded the final trustee to fill out their 2025 Statement of Economic Interests by May 1, 2025. Penalties and fines begin incurring on May 2, 2025.

Director Komala noted that early voting for the April 1, 2025 Consolidated Election began on March 17, 2025. The completed questionnaires from Christianson, Miller, and Meshes are posted on the Library's website.

Director Komala noted the insurance premiums for 2025-2026 policy renewals only increased a total of 1.6%. The Library added earthquake insurance and lowered the amount insured for Government Crime per statutory changes.

National Library Week is April 6-12, 2025. Director Komala thanked the trustees for the card to staff and gift cards. The Library will use the gift cards to have various pizza parties throughout the week to catch all staff's schedules. National Library Workers Day is Tuesday, April 8. Komala welcomed trustees to drop in to show their appreciation for the staff.

Trustees watched the iLEAD training video on Engaging the Community. Vice President Bunton and President Augle agreed that they find it easy to promote the Library's programs and storytimes to try to bring in new patrons.

President Trump issued an Executive Order on March 14, 2025 reducing staff in federal agencies, including the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the primary source of federal funding for libraries. IMLS provides essential support to libraries across the U.S. Director Komala provided trustees with a copy of the Executive Order and statements from the ALA, ILA, RAILS, and COSLA in support of the IMLS. Komala noted the Library is funded primarily through property taxes and this funding is not at risk.

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However, the loss of federal funds to organizations we rely on could affect the Library significantly. At risk are the Per Capita grant, interlibrary loans, savings on cataloging software, and access to RAILS services and networking just to name a few. RAILS funding is secured through most of 2025, and they have reported that they have a healthy reserve. Komala will stay on top of this issue. She will inform staff how it may affect the Library but not their employment at the Library.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Library.