

### NAME AND GOVERNANCE OF ORGANIZATION

This organization shall be called "The Board of Trustees of the Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District," Cook County, Illinois, ("the Board") existing by virtue of the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois, and exercising the powers and authority and assuming the responsibilities delegated to it under these statutes.

#### Statutory Authority

All matters of membership, election, duties, powers etc., of the Board are governed by Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 75, Act 16, *The Illinois Public Library District Act of 1991*.

#### Purpose of Bylaws

These Bylaws have been established to govern and help guide the activities of the Board and its officers.

### 1.0 TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

- 1.1 Trustees must reside in the District. The Board consists of seven people.
- 1.2 At least two of the Trustees shall reside in the Village of Northfield and at least three shall reside in the Village of Winnetka.
- 1.3 Trustee terms will be four years.
- 1.4 Vacancies on the Board may be filled by appointment of the remaining Trustees, as specified by Illinois Law.
- 1.5 The Board shall retain the names of alternate candidates nominated by the Winnetka Caucus Council or the Northfield Caucus, as appropriate, and shall consult the alternate slate in the event of a vacancy.
- 1.6 The offices shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All officers shall be members of the Board.
- 1.7 The slate of officers shall be nominated by the Trustees following the Oath of Office after the election of Trustees.

- 1.8 Officers of the Board of Trustees shall be elected to a two-year term on the third Monday in May and shall take office immediately. No officer shall hold that office for more than two consecutive terms. In case of the resignation of an officer or inability to perform the duties of the office, the successor shall be elected to fill the unexpired term at the next meeting of the Board.
- 1.9 Two Trustees will be appointed liaisons to the Village of Winnetka and the Village of Northfield.

## **2.0 DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES**

- 2.1 The President shall preside over all meetings of the Board and work with the Library Director to set the Board meeting agenda. The President shall appoint Trustees to Committees based on the recommendations of, and in consultation with, the Board. The President shall abstain from voting unless there is a tie, in which case, they act as the tie breaker.
- 2.2 The Vice-President shall serve as President in the President's absence.
- 2.3 The Secretary shall oversee records, including the minutes of all meetings, the names of those in attendance, the ordinances enacted, resolutions, rules and regulations adopted, and all other pertinent written matter as affect the operation of the District.
- 2.4 The Treasurer shall be the financial officer of the Board. The Treasurer shall oversee records of the District, including a record of all receipts, disbursements, and balances in any funds. At the end of the fiscal year, an audit shall be performed and accompanied by the professional opinion of an accountant certified to practice public accounting under the laws of the State of Illinois. The Treasurer shall give bond to the District to discharge faithfully the duties of the office. The minimum amount of the bond shall be based upon 50% of the total annual library taxes collected by the District. The cost of any surety bond shall be borne by the District.
- 2.5 The Library Director shall have charge of library administration and operations under general oversight of the Board. The Director shall prepare an annual budget, a Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, and a Levy Ordinance for Board approval, see that books of account are kept in which all financial transactions of the Library District are accurately recorded, all bills are received and correct, and all necessary checks and drafts are prepared in payment. The Director shall ensure that minutes of all meetings are prepared for Board approval and signed by the Secretary.

The Library Director shall attend the meetings of the Board and shall submit a monthly report of library operations . The Library Director shall submit an Illinois Public Library Annual Report (IPLAR) on behalf of the library district on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The Library Director shall keep the Board informed of all changes in applicable legislation and regulations.

### **3.0 COMMITTEES**

- 3.1 Any recommendation by a Committee must be presented to the Board of Trustees for action.
- 3.2 Any proposed expenses incurred by a Committee must be approved in advance by the Board of Trustees.
- 3.3 Persons who are not Trustees may be appointed to Committees.
- 3.4 The Board of Trustees may add, delete, or change the duties of a Committee by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum.
- 3.5 Special Committees may be created by the Board of Trustees to address a specific issue or issues by an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum. Each such Special Committee shall be disbanded upon completion of its assigned task(s) or by vote of a majority of the quorum.

### **4.0 MEETINGS**

- 4.1 The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees shall be held in the main library or the branch at 7:00pm on the third Monday of each month. Additionally, the board may hold study sessions to discuss specific topics per a schedule determined at the beginning of the fiscal year. Study Sessions will be listed on the Regular Meeting Ordinance adopted by the Board prior to the start of the next fiscal year. The Board may, by majority vote, change the date, time, or place of any Board meeting or Study Session, as needed.
- 4.2 A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of four (4) Trustees.
- 4.3 If a quorum is physically present, a majority of the Board members present may allow another Board member to attend the meeting using an audio or video link (Other Means) if that member is prevented from physically attending because of (i) personal

illness or disability, (ii) employment purposes or the business of the Library Board, or (iii) a family or another emergency. If a member wishes to attend a meeting by Other Means, the member must notify the Library Director or a Board officer no less than one hour before the meeting is scheduled to begin.

- 4.4 Special Meetings may be called by the President or the Secretary or by any four (4) Trustees, by written notice posted at least 48 hours immediately preceding the day of the Special Meeting, or by oral notice to all Trustees in the case of a stated emergency.
- 4.5 A Trustee who misses more than three regular monthly meetings in a calendar year may be asked by the Board of Trustees, at its discretion, to submit his or her resignation.
- 4.6 All meetings must comply with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Board in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Board may adopt.
- 4.7 No Trustee or employee of the Library shall engage in any business or transaction, or have a financial or personal interest, whether directly or indirectly, that is incompatible with the proper discharge of his or her official duties in the public interest, or that may tend to impair his or her independence of judgment or action in the performance of such official duties. Any member of the Board who has any interest of a financial or personal nature in a matter before the Board shall recuse him/herself from discussion and abstain from voting on said matter.

All Trustees must file the Disclosure of Economic Interests Statement as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act. [5 ILCS 420/4A-101]

## **5.0 ORDER OF BUSINESS**

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD SHALL BE AT LEAST AS FOLLOWS:

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| I. Call to Order               | VII. Liaison/Committee Reports |
| II. Roll Call                  | VIII. Unfinished Business      |
| III. Public Comments           | IX. New Business               |
| IV. Approval of Consent Agenda | X. Public Comments             |
| V. Financial Report            | XI. Adjournment                |
| VI. Director's Report          |                                |

## **6.0 DISBURSEMENTS**

- 6.1 Disbursements of funds drawn against the General Fund of the Library for amounts exceeding \$15,000.00 shall be authorized by any two of the following: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Library Director.
- 6.2 Disbursements of funds drawn against the General Fund for amounts equal to or less than \$15,000.00 shall be authorized by any one of the officials designated above.
- 6.3 Trustee expenses in excess of \$200 per expense for library-related matters, such as membership in library associations, education activities, and attendance at meetings, shall not be paid by the District without prior approval of the Board.

## **7.0 RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- 7.1 The Board of Trustees shall set the policies for use of the library and designate the days and hours of service. This information shall be publicly posted on the Library's website and at its facilities. The Board shall equip and maintain the Library for the benefit of the greatest number of residents in the District.
- 7.2 Communications to and from the Board:
  - 7.2.1 Board members' substantive questions or communications to staff shall be channeled through the Director's Office.
  - 7.2.2 All communications, including electronic communications, to, by, and between Board members, in their capacity as Board members, shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

## **8.0 AMENDMENTS**

These By-laws may be amended by a vote of a majority of a quorum of the Board.