



**BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MINUTES, SPECIAL MEETING  
February 23, 2021**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order by President Melissa Mark at 6:30 p.m.

Library Board present: Ashley Aidenbaum (Birmingham, MI), Melissa Mark (Birmingham, MI), Frank Pisano (Birmingham, MI), James W. Suhay (Birmingham, MI), Bob Tera (Birmingham, MI), Jennifer Wheeler (Birmingham, MI).

Absent and excused: None.

Library Staff present: Rebekah Craft, Library Director

Members of the public present: 4 candidates for the Library Board position were present, as well as one member of the public.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance following establishment of quorum.

Mark read aloud the Library's Mission Statement.

2. Review of process and procedures for filling the vacant position on the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors

Mark reviewed the process and procedures for filling the vacant position on the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors, thanked each of the applicants, and encouraged candidates not appointed to the Board to look for other volunteer positions with the Library and Friends of the Library.

Aidenbaum asked for clarification on when Board members can share feedback on candidates. Mark requested that Board members share feedback when they nominate a candidate.

3. General Public Comment Period

No comments.

4. Call for nominations

President Mark began the nomination process by randomly pulling Board member names out of a paper bag.

Suhay's name was drawn first. Suhay nominated Karen Rock, noting her extensive depth and breadth of skills and experiences and mentioning her business career, work as a Community School Organizer, member of the Board and newsletter editor for the Quarton Lake Neighborhood Association, volunteer work with the Oakland Literacy Council, four years as a volunteer on the Books & Bites Committee, frequent attendee of Library programs, and understanding of the Birmingham community and its Library

Mark was selected next and passed.

Wheeler was selected next and passed.

Tera was selected next. Tera nominated Andrew Landau, noting his awareness of the library world and his farsighted view of libraries and technology.

Aidenbaum was selected next and passed.

Pisano was selected last. Pisano nominated Michael Kern and stated his appreciation for his methodical answers to questions and described the value having an attorney on the Board would bring with the upcoming focus on updating the Library's strategic plan and policies.

Aidenbaum shared her appreciation for the candidates' commitment to the appointment process, remarked on their vast strengths, and reiterated the Library's need for support and engagement from others outside of the person who will be appointed to the Board.

Mark thanked the community for contributing their feedback on the candidates and noted that many people expressed their support for Karen Rock.

Aidenbaum stated that she took community support into consideration, because the role of Board members is to represent the public. She stated that the amount of community support shared for Karen Rock weighed heavily in her decision.

**Motion: To appoint Karen Rock to the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors to hold office until the next regular City election in November 2021.**

1<sup>st</sup> Suhay

Yeas: Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, Suhay, Tera, Wheeler

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: None.

Mark noted that Rock must be sworn in at the Clerk's office in City Hall before the March Board meeting.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the February 23, 2021 Special Board meeting.

1<sup>st</sup> Wheeler

2<sup>nd</sup> Tera

Yeas: Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, Suhay, Tera, Wheeler

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: None.

The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

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Jennifer Wheeler

Date