

**Rapides Parish Library
Policies & Reconsideration of Materials Committee
of the Board of Control
October 30, 2023**

Minutes

A meeting of the Policies & Reconsideration of Materials Committee of the Rapides Parish Board of Control was held at the Huie-Dellmon House, 430 St. James Street, Alexandria, LA.

Committee members present were Ms. Irene Hobbs (Chair), Ms. Dana Cox, Mr. Ralph Roach, and Board President Le’Anza Jordan. Also present were Library Director Celise Reech-Harper, Assistant District Attorney Greg Jones, and Administrative Assistant Kendra Bertrand.

Ms. Hobbs called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Agenda

Ms. Hobbs asked that the agenda be amended to add section 4. Approval of Previous Minutes. Mr. Roach motioned to add the agenda item. Ms. Jordan seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Minutes

Ms. Hobbs asked that the previous minutes be amended due to an error; the heading labeled “Finance Committee” will be corrected to “Policies & Reconsideration of Materials Committee.” Mr. Roach motioned to approve the minutes as discussed. Ms. Jordan seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Collection Development Policy & Materials Circulation Policy

Upon review of the Collection Develop Policy drafted at the last meeting, Mr. Jones informed the committee that the previously removed “in locus parentis” paragraph is supported by the guidelines set forth by the Attorney General’s office. It was therefore recommended that the language be reinstated into the policy, under Section V. Principles of Selection. Mr. Roach motioned to reinsert the paragraph, seconded by Ms. Jordan, and the motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Jones then reviewed the committee’s drafted Materials Circulation Policy and proposed additional language be added to stress the necessity of parent/guardian involvement in selecting a card type for minors. He clarified for the committee that minors will not be allowed access to any library materials until a parent or guardian has selected a card type.

Three suggested card types for minors (ages 0-17) were put forth:

- **Restricted Minor Card** – the minor child **may not** check out books which have been identified as “sexually explicit” by the Library Board of Control, and the minor child **may not** access Digital Content Materials.
- **Restricted Minor Plus Card** – the minor child **may** check out books which have been identified as “sexually explicit” by the Library Board of Control, and the minor child **may not** access Digital Content Materials.

- **Restricted Minor Plus & Digital Card** – the minor child **may** check out books which have been identified as “sexually explicit” by the Library Board of Control, and the minor child **may** access Digital Content Materials.

Mr. Roach motioned to amend the Materials Circulation Policy draft with the discussed changes. Ms. Cox seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Further discussion led to an additional proposed amendment to the Collection Development Policy. Mr. Jones recommended the addition of a new paragraph to Section IX. Reconsideration of Materials, which would state that the Board’s deliberation on reconsidered items shall include a discussion on where to house the item should it be deemed inappropriate for its current collection. Ms. Cox motioned to add such a paragraph to the Collection Development Policy. Mr. Roach seconded, and the motion unanimously passed.

Before bringing the two policy drafts before the full Board for a vote, Mr. Jones suggested that they first be sent to the Attorney General’s office for review and further advisement. Ms. Cox so moved, seconded by Mr. Roach, and the motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Cox motioned to adjourn. Mr. Roach seconded, and the motion unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Celise Reech-Harper
Secretary

Irene Hobbs
Committee Chair