



# CRETE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

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1177 N. Main St. | Crete, IL 60417 | 708.672.8017

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING**

**September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 6PM**

### **MEETING AGENDA**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**
3. **HEARING OF DELEGATIONS**
4. **PRESENTATION BY DR. LAURA PAYNE AND STAFF: *Community Survey Project - Library Board of Trustees Focus Group***
5. **ADJOURNMENT**  
To September 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 P.M. for regularly scheduled meeting



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
September 13, 2022

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Vice-President Williams. Those in attendance: Vice-President Williams, Trustees: Boehner, Brennan, & Oliver. Also in attendance: Executive Director Sieffert & Dr. Laura Payne,
- II. Introduction of guests: Sieffert introduced Dr. Laura Payne from the University of Illinois Extension program as the consultant who is the lead of the 2022 collaborative community survey project.
- III. Hearing of Delegations: There were no delegations.
- IV. Presentation by Dr. Laura Payne on the community survey and focus group.

Dr. Payne had Trustees introduce themselves and ask why each have pursued public service and participation on the Library Board. Trustees voiced a variety of reasons, but ultimately all expressed that they wanted to serve the residents of Crete and Crete Township and help ensure the Library's place as a community hub and a facility that is open and accessible for all.

Dr. Payne then asked Trustees to highlight what they believe are some of the hallmarks of the Library and what the Library currently does well. Trustees expressed that they believe the Library creates a warm and welcoming environment that isn't matched at other facilities. They feel Library staff has been very adaptable and done a fantastic job in navigating the changing landscape over the last two years of the pandemic. Additionally Trustees praised the wide variety of opportunities that staff make available for residents of all ages.

The discussion then shifted to challenges the Library might face as it moves forward. Trustees expressed that the future of the modern public library is still a work in progress and that our Library needs to remain adaptive to serve the ever-changing needs of the community. There was talk about the employee market conditions and that many employers have had difficulty recruiting and retaining valuable employees. While our Library hasn't experienced this trend, it is something that The Board wants to be aware of with decisions they make moving forward. Lastly, there was talk that despite our building being only 25 years old, The Library is dealing with infrastructure issues that need attention.

Lastly, Dr. Payne then asked Trustees what are some of the things they would like to see the Library pursue as we move forward. Trustees discussed working to ensure that the Library always has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for those who come in. There was also discussion to pursue additional opportunities for collaboration with the other taxing districts in town and to be more involved in community outreach. And lastly, Trustees present discussed the possibility of making better use of the Library's exterior space and property.

Dr. Laura thanked the Board for their time and participation. She expressed her enthusiasm this survey and suggested that it is very forward thinking of the Crete community to pursue a project of this size and scope. Before the meeting adjourned Dr. Laura outlined the road map of the project moving forward and answered any

questions the Board had regarding the next steps.

V. Adjournment:

To Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 6:30pm for regularly scheduled meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judi Boehner, Secretary