

MANISTEE COUNTY LIBRARY
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 16, 2020, 2020 PAGE 1

The Manistee County Library Board held a special meeting in the Library's Upper Level Meeting Room on Tuesday, March 16, 2020. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current health crisis and steps to protect patrons and staff. President Valentine called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present

Joyce Valentine, Richard Blue, Barbara Sleder, and Rosalind Jaffe

Absent

Tamara Buswinka (with prior notification)

Others

Debra Greenacre, Executive Director; Julie Cirone, Assistant Director; Pamela Spoor and Nicholas Walleit, Staff and Helen Grabowski, Recording Secretary

The Board received handouts from the Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Library Association, and information from Mrs. Greenacre regarding minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in the Library.

President Valentine turned the meeting over to Mrs. Greenacre and she began by informing the Board that several libraries have already closed throughout the state. The Michigan Library Association is recommending that all libraries take action to close their doors until Sunday April 5. Mrs. Greenacre is recommending that the Library close at 5:00 p.m. today until further notice. She also recommended that all staff stay home for two weeks and she will assess the situation at that end of the two weeks. Staff will be notified on March 27 if they are to return to work on March 30. Staff will be paid for their scheduled hours while off.

During the time the Library is closed, all online resources will be available 24/7 and can be accessed remotely using the patron's library card. The book drops will not be available while the Library is closed and patrons are asked to hold all materials until the Library reopens.

In the discussion that followed, Ms. Jaffe was okay with closing to the public, but not until further notice because that sounds like the Library will be closed for an indefinite period of time. She feels comfortable with going with MLA's suggestion as the Board can always revise it later.

Motion by Sleder, supported by Jaffe, to close the Library to the public at 5:00 p.m. today (March 16) until April 5, 2020. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Motion by Sleder, supported by Jaffe, to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. All voting in favor. Motion carried.

Helen Grabowski
Recording Secretary