

PONTIAC PUBLIC LIBRARY SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28th 2023 at 6 p.m.
Pontiac Public Library Auditorium

1. **Welcome**
2. **Call Meeting to Order:** Meeting Called to Order: 6:00PM
3. **Moment of Silence**
4. **Roll Call**

Present – Chairperson Richardson, Vice-Chair Brinker Marion, Secretary Allen,
Treasurer Hatchett, Trustee Maxey

5. **Public Comments**
No Public Comments
6. **Approval of Agenda –**

Trustee Maxey motions to approve the Agenda and Secretary Allen seconds
Roll call: Trustee Maxey – Yes, Treasurer Hatchett – Yes, Chairperson Richardson – Yes,
Vice-Chair Brinker Marion – Yes, Secretary Allen – Yes
Motion Passes

Chairperson Richardson verifies with the Board members as to whether each still has the interview questions ready for the Vacant Trustee Position Candidates. Then Chairperson Richardson instructs each member to take on of the questions to ask the candidates. A ballot was then passed to each member. Afterwards, the letters of intent from both candidates were then reviewed by all Board members. The Board notifies the Library Director to take the second candidate who enters the room out of the auditorium so the first candidate can be interviewed also.

Candidate Joe Sinclair enters first and is instructed to step to the podium.
Secretary Allen asked the first question, “Why are you interested in serving on the Library Board?” Candidate Sinclair stated he was withdrawing himself from the process because he felt Perry Earl has sat in the seat before, and he would be coming in learning the job on the job. He also listed so health related issues that factored in his decision.

Chairperson Richardson thanked Mr. Sinclair for coming and wished him the best going forward.

Candidate Perry Earl Jr. was instructed to step to the podium.
Secretary Allen asked the first question, “Why are you interested in serving on the Library Board?” Candidate Earl stated he was interested in continuing to create additional programs such as the chess club, because he believes the library is the only community hub, only community center in the city. He would like to see more activities for children being conducted at the library.

Vice Chair Brinker Marion asked the second question, “What can you offer the community by being on the Library Board?” Candidate Earl mention his children, and being an active member in the community, such as participation with the Ice Cream Social, Park Clean ups, and Halloween events that present Library Board members already know.

Treasurer Hatchett asked the third question, "Do you have any conflict of interest with the Board, if so please explain?" Candidate Earl answered, "No. No, If I do have any conflict I don't know."

Trustee Maxey asked the fourth question, "Are you available to meet with a flexible schedule for Board meetings?" "Explain any concerns or challenges that you might have in the future." Candidate Earl responded he was currently working two days a week for 16 hours as a nurse assistant. In May he would return to school to become a nurse. However, his school hour schedule would be of his choosing. The classes are online so he would have flexibility.

Chairperson Richardson asked the fifth and final question, "Do you understand the purpose of the Library Board and your role as a Trustee?" "And please explain." Candidate Earl states a Library Trustee's purpose was to build the trust of the people in the community. Once trust had been established you work to help build the things the people want in their library. He also mentioned roles such as fund raising, helping to create a Friends of the Library group, and upgrading and beautifying.

Chairperson Richardson asked if there were any additional comments or questions.

Secretary Allen asked another question. "When you were on the Library Board before, what was your; #1 your biggest accomplishment and #2 your biggest hindrance?" Candidate Earl states his biggest accomplishment was helping to create programs which brought kids into the library. The biggest hindrance is people don't know how to separate the Board from personal outside relationships. When you're at the Board meetings it's about business.

Chairperson Richardson asked a question about a request made of Candidate Earl to return something and he did not and that would be considered a conflict. Candidate Earl said he never received any notice and Chairperson Richardson asked if he would return a Board issued laptop. Candidate Earl answered yes.

7. Action Item

The board voted:

Secretary Allen states there are two votes for Perry Earl Jr, two "NO" votes, and one vote for Joe Sinclair.

Chairperson Richardson stated that Joe Sinclair is no longer on the ballot.

The board voted again:

Secretary Allen states there are two votes for Perry Earl Jr, two "NO" votes, and one abstain vote.

Treasurer Hatchett moves that the Board postpones a decision until a legal opinion can be obtained. Trustee Maxey second the motion.

8. Board Comments

Chairperson Richardson apologized to the public.

9. **Adjournment** – a motion was made by Secretary Allen and seconded by Treasurer Hatchett to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call: Secretary Allen – Yes, Chairperson Richardson – Yes, Trustee Maxey – Yes, Treasurer Hatchett – Yes

Motion Passes