

TIPPECANOE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
627 South Street, Lafayette, Indiana
February 1, 2022

MINUTES

Notice of the date, time, place and agenda for this meeting was posted in prominent public view at the Library and mailed to requesting media on Thursday, January 27, 2022 in conformity with the Indiana Open Meeting Act.

PRESENT:

Stephen Bultinck, President
Mary Springer, Vice-President
Mida Grover, Secretary
Connie Harper, Member
Grant Fischer, Member
Kay Walton, Member

ABSENT:

Dave Lahr, Treasurer

GUESTS

Suzanne Cunningham, Friends Vice-President
Rain Gerteis, Staff
Jos N. Holman, County Librarian

President Stephen Bultinck chaired the regular Board meeting and called it to order at 7:02 p.m. A quorum was declared to conduct business for the library.

Board member Kay Walton led the Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. With three new seated Board members, Mr. Bultinck invited everyone present to introduce themselves. After introductions, Mr. Bultinck continued with the business of the meeting.

Board Vice-President Mary Springer moved the **Board Minutes** of January 4th, 2022 be approved as presented. Board Secretary, Mida Grover provided a second and the motion passed.

Under the heading of the **County Librarian's Report**, Mr. Holman shared information about several items. He mentioned the traditional February Read Aloud program happens February 1-28. The program is intended to encourage families to read aloud during winter months similar to a summer reading program. A reading record is available to keep track of hours, small prizes are given out, and there will be virtual performances on three Saturdays. The County Librarian will share humorous poetry on February 5 with a small audience using Facebook live. A singer, Jeanie B. will perform children's songs associated with literacy on February 19. Magician Gary Kantor will perform on February 26. Other children's programs will take place throughout the month at various TCPL locations. Mr. Holman reported the TCPL Foundation's annual appeal letter is doing well generating over \$15,000 from 130 gifts. The average gift so far is \$118.45. Though checks are the most common conveyance of the gift, about eight gifts have been conveyed by credit card. Because these gifts are associated with the downtown library renovation, the Foundation will eventually transfer the final amount to TCPL. Finally, Mr. Holman

indicated TCPL renewed its agreement with AVC, the new accounting software purchased in 2021. This software is the key financial tool used by Finance Controller, Loretta Carter. Staff of AVC have been very responsive to all questions and adjustments needed by TCPL so this change seems to be a good fit for TCPL. The software cost is \$517 billed quarterly.

Mrs. Grover moved to approve the February 1st, 2022 **Personnel Actions**. Mrs. Springer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

There were no **Committee Reports**.

Under the heading of **Other Reports**, Friends Vice-President, Suzanne Cunningham, reported on recent Friends activities. Ms. Cunningham mentioned the Friends will have four outgoing board members this year. The Friends anticipate adding four new members during their annual meeting on March 21st, one of whom will be the new Vice President of the Friends. The next Friends book sale event will be March 4th through March 7th. The posters for marketing the sale are being sent out and book sale customers are expected to wear masks. Finally, Ms. Cunningham indicated the Friends may plan on holding a sale of children's books on a Saturday in April. There were no **Other Reports**.

Under the heading of **Old Business**, the Board held a discussion on the renovation of the downtown library. The County Librarian provided background on the effort to determine priorities for the renovation project and showed slides of the current designs to better understand the scope of the project. He indicated feedback thus far prioritize the HVAC, fire alarm system, and the IT/Data systems changes as high on the list for items to be completed. Initially, with little consensus on the remaining items, a discussion on how to move forward is needed to assist Keystone Architecture in developing appropriate drawings for public bid. Board members discussed the various elements of the renovation and indicated infrastructure is certainly important to sustaining a 33-year old building. They also acknowledged the Facilities committee will take the lead on the project and bring recommendations to the full Board. There was consensus to continue to work with Kettelhut on determining the scope of the project. Board member Grant Fischer volunteered to serve on the Facilities committee.

Also, under the heading of **Old Business**, President Bultinck initiated a discussion on TCPL's Investment Policy. The County Librarian added background information on the current policy and the need to identify investment options for the proceeds from the sale of the general obligation bonds. The Board considered a revised Investment Policy prepared by attorney Robert Bauman. There were very few questions about the revised policy. It was decided to inquire if the maximum two-year investment might be changed to three years. Mr. Holman indicated he would check on that. No action was taken on the Investment Policy.

There was no **New Business** to consider.

Under the heading of **Other Business**, President Bultinck stated in the absence of Board Treasurer, Dave Lahr, he completed the totals for the claims. Mrs. Springer moved to approve the grand total of claims listing of \$583,032.64. This included \$349,133.58 in prewritten claims and \$233,899.06 in regular claims. Mrs. Grover seconded the motion and the motion passed.

There were no **Comments from the Public**. Also, there were no **Comments from the Board**. Under **Comments from the Director**, Mr. Holman commented on several items. He provided information about the *Doug Eberle Governance Series* hosted by the Community Foundation of Greater Lafayette. The series offers trainings on specific topics related to non-profit boards. Mr. Holman indicated Board members could attend a single session by informing him of their interest and he would get them registered. Finally, Mr. Holman brought SB 17 to the Board's attention. This piece of legislation is making its way through the Indiana Senate and focuses on a change in the legal defense for public libraries related to materials harmful to minors. The legislation gives the local Prosecuting Attorney the ability to prosecute individual librarians for making harmful materials available to minors. Mr. Holman wanted to make sure the Board was aware of the legislation.

Mrs. Grover moved to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 8:14 p.m. Mrs. Springer seconded the motion and it carried.

Mida Grover, Secretary

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