

OBERLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting held virtually via Zoom

May 13, 2021 Regular

President Bruce Ente called to order the regular meeting at 5:23 p.m. Roll call: Marcia Peterson, Megan Newson, Patrick Prosser, Bruce Ente, and Anita Lock were present. Bethany Baker and Meredith Gadsby were absent. Also present were Darren McDonough, Director, and Kristin Cioffi, Fiscal Officer. Erin Shiba, Robin Lauren, and David Ashenhurst were present from the public.

Lock moved, seconded by Newson, to accept Resolution # R-21-5-2, approving the minutes of the April 8, 2021, regular meeting. All present voted in favor.

MOTION PASSED

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director McDonough reported that the library extended its hours on May 3. He reviewed the library's current hours and plans for further extending hours. McDonough reported that the team leaders have discussed how to handle Governor DeWine's removal of health orders on June 2. McDonough reported that he and other library directors attended a virtual Legislative Day on April 9, meeting with state legislators from Ohio's 13th Senatorial District. The legislators expressed their support for libraries. McDonough hopes the event will return to being in-person in Columbus again next year. McDonough noted that the library's levy passed by a large margin.

There were questions and some discussion regarding hours, services, and social distancing protocols once the state's health orders are lifted. McDonough answered a few questions from Ente regarding the statistics on the Bridge Report. Newson asked McDonough if he includes staff continuing education activities on his monthly report. McDonough responded that he does not. Ente inquired about the Eclectic Book Discussion program. McDonough explained that the Eclectic Book Group is comprised of Kendal residents and is moderated by a community volunteer. The group meets at Kendal or on Zoom.

COMMUNICATIONS AND GIFTS

Lock moved, seconded by Peterson to accept Resolution # R-21-5-3, to accept the following gifts:

In Memory of Jean Broadwell:

- \$100.00 from Julie Schroeder
- \$100.00 from Mary J. Prechtel
- \$100.00 from Martin Ackerman
- \$100.00 from John & Frances Baumann

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- \$100.00 from Susan & Scott Lancashire
- \$30.00 from Jim & Daria Grimes
- \$100.00 from Jeff & Merrilee Witmer
- \$100.00 from Emily Tobias
- \$25.00 from Craig & Barbara Enos

In Memory of Sofia Pineda:

- \$100.00 from Wendy Kozol & Steven Wojtal
- \$125.00 from Kristina Mani on behalf of the Latin American Studies Program

In Memory of Zelda Troiano:

- \$100.00 from Sue Trinacty

Book donation in honor of Jeanne McKibben:

- Healing Earth: An Ecologist's Journey of Innovation and Environmental Stewardship from OPL Board of Trustees

All present voted in favor.

MOTION PASSED

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Cioffi reviewed the April 2021 financial reports, consisting of Fund Status, Revenue Status, Appropriation Status, and Bank Reconciliation. Cioffi reported that the State Treasurer's office would no longer offer STAR Plus. The library's current STAR Plus account will transfer to STAR Ohio at the end of the month. Peterson moved, seconded by Lock, to accept Resolution # R-21-5-4, accepting the April 2021 financial reports. Roll call vote: Peterson, Prosser, Lock, Ente, Newson, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ente informed the Trustees that he has their OLC membership cards for them. He asked that each Trustee let him know if they would like their card left at the library or mailed to them. Ente thanked the Trustees, McDonough and the library staff, and the Friends of OPL for their support and help in passing the library's levy. Ente noted that he received a letter from the Lorain County Board of Elections regarding certifying issues in electronic format.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING, FINANCE, & AUDIT

Peterson reported that the committee met and reviewed the information regarding the 2022 Budget request and the disposal of outdated financial records.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Prosser reported that the committee met and discussed matters concerning The Bridge. Lock reported that discussions regarding The Bridge are in the brainstorming phase to understand better how things run.

PERSONNEL

Newson reported that the committee met and discussed the increase in library hours and the calling back of staff.

OLD BUSINESS

Ente reported that he attended the Friends of OPL in place of Baker. The Friends discussed resuming book sales and the resignation of Friends' Board member Kay Rider. Ente noted that people are encouraged to share well wishes with Rider. Peterson pointed out that the latest OLC newsletter contained information regarding an upcoming program about book sales. McDonough, in turn, noted he has already forwarded information about the program to the Friends of OPL. Prosser asked how the Friends of OPL obtain books for their book sales get books. McDonough responded that the books come from public donations and old materials discarded from the library's collection.

Peterson left the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Ente initiated discussion regarding strategic planning for The Bridge. He noted that he has spoken with most of the Trustees and feels the need to create questions to guide the process. Ente brought up several topics he thought might be important to address. Topics included value, future technologies, technology trends at other libraries, OLC/ALA technology recommendations, data and statistics, relationships between the library and The Bridge, branding and visibility, privacy concerns, user needs, staffing, and the relationship between The Bridge and the schools. Ente recommends forming a committee or task force to address questions and topics. He would also like to know which Trustees

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would be interested in serving on the committee. There was discussion regarding how many people should serve on the committee or if all Board members should participate. Everyone present expressed interest in being on the committee. Ente noted that he would reach out to the other Trustees to gauge their interest.

There was a discussion regarding if the Board should hold a June meeting and what the order of business should be for the meeting. The consensus was to leave the meeting on the calendar, but there was no decision on the order of business. Since Memorial Day is the scheduled meeting date for the Library Services and Personnel committees, Ente will work with McDonough and Cioffi to reschedule those meetings. All the Trustees present indicated that they would be comfortable holding meetings in person again.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

Lock moved, seconded by Prosser, to adjourn. All present voted in favor.
The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

President

Attest