

OBERLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

February 9, 2023

President Meredith Gadsby called to order the regular meeting at 5:03 p.m. Roll call: Marcia Peterson, Melissa Stalnaker, Lili Sandler, Phyllis Yarber Hogan, Megan Newson, Bethany Baker, and Meredith Gadsby were present. Also present were David Fausnaugh, Director, Kristin Cioffi, Fiscal Officer, and members of the public.

Peterson moved, seconded by Baker, to accept Resolution # R-23-2-1, approving the minutes of the 2023 Organizational meeting held January 12, 2023 and the January 12, 2023 regular meeting. Roll call vote: Peterson, Stalnaker, Sandler, Hogan, Newson, Baker, Gadsby, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

FISCAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Fiscal Officer Cioffi reviewed the January 2023 financial reports (Fund Status, Revenue Status, Appropriation Status, and Bank Reconciliation). Cioffi noted that she had completed all the necessary financial filings for 2022, including filing the 2022 financial reports with the Auditor of State. Peterson moved, seconded by Baker, to accept Resolution # R-23-2-2, accepting the January 2023 Financial Reports. Roll call vote: Peterson, Stalnaker, Sandler, Hogan, Newson, Baker, Gadsby, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

PERSONNEL

Fausnaugh reviewed the library's personnel changes. Newson moved, seconded by Peterson, to accept Resolution # R-23-2-3, approving the appointment of Circulation Clerk Alim Wilkins, effective 1-9-2023 and the separation of Circulation Clerk Lindsey Pfenninger, effective 2-24-2023. Roll call vote: Peterson, Stalnaker, Sandler, Hogan, Newson, Baker, Gadsby, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

OLD BUSINESS

Fausnaugh and Cioffi presented 2023 Permanent Appropriations. Peterson moved, seconded by Stalnaker, to accept Resolution # R-23-2-4, approving 2023 Permanent Appropriations as follows: General Fund \$1,757,770.00, comprised of \$1,140,820.00 salaries and benefits, \$272,450.00 purchased and contracted services, \$213,000.00 library materials, information and supplies, \$11,500.00 other objects, \$30,000.00 capital outlay, \$90,000.00 transfers and contingency; Building Fund expenditures of \$150,000.00; and Non-Expendable Trust Funds expenditures of \$5,000.00 for a grand total of \$1,912,770.00. Roll call vote: Peterson, Stalnaker, Sandler, Hogan, Newson, Baker, Gadsby, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

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Gadsby reported that she had a conversation with Fausnaugh regarding committee meetings. Fausnaugh commented that he wants to be respectful of the Trustees' time and not just schedule committee meetings for the sake of holding them. Hogan asked what the purpose of the Library Services committee is. Fausnaugh responded that it seems like the committee was used as an onboarding tool for new Trustees and that he would rather do one-on-one orientations as needed. Gadsby commented that as the other library policies are reviewed, committees will be, too. Peterson commented that the Library Services Committee provides Trustees with a clear picture of many of the programs that are ongoing in the Library. Peterson noted that she was very grateful for all she learned while serving on the Library Services Committee and would hope to see that pattern continue. Baker commented that she agrees with not holding committee meetings if there isn't a reason to.

NEW BUSINESS

Fausnaugh reported that he included information in the packet on the Ohio Digital Library. Fausnaugh commented that in looking at ways to save money in the budget, joining the Ohio Digital Library would give the library a broader digital collection and allow us to shift where we spend money. There was some discussion about the Ohio Digital Library and the benefits of joining.

Gadsby reported that she invited the library's attorney, Greg Peltz to the meeting to provide an update regarding the Ashenurst lawsuit. Baker moved, seconded by Sandler, to accept Resolution # R-23-2-5, to enter Executive Session at 5:29 p.m. for the purpose of conferencing with the Board's attorney concerning pending litigation or court action. Roll call vote: Peterson, Stalnaker, Sandler, Newson, Baker, Gadsby, ALL AYES; Hogan, NAY.

MOTION PASSED

The Board returned from the executive session at 5:42 p.m. via motion by Sandler, seconded by Peterson.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Fausnaugh reported that he is currently working on putting together a comprehensive policy manual. Fausnaugh asked if anyone interested in attending OLC's Trustee workshop let him know. Stalnaker and Hogan indicated that they would like to attend, and Fausnaugh will register them. Fausnaugh reported that this month, the statistics for The Bridge are incorporated into the library statistics, rather than being given separate. The Trustees agreed that they liked the new format. Hogan asked a question about the WiFi statistics, and Fausnaugh explained how WiFi usage was reported. Hogan asked why there were not more library sponsored programs for Black History month. There was some discussion

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regarding ongoing conversations held over the past several years regarding programming at the library. Fausnaugh apologized that there was not more library sponsored programming for Black History month and noted that he will continue to look at offering more programming in the future.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Aliza Weidenbaum (99 South Cedar Street) commented that it is understandable to only hold Personnel and Building, Finance, and Audit committee meetings when they are needed. Weidenbaum commented that the Library Services committee meeting is important because it is the one opportunity for the public to meet with the staff and the Board to discuss anything on their minds, and it would be great to have the committee meet regularly. Weidenbaum commented that public comments could be put earlier in the meeting. Gadsby responded that having public comments at the end of the meeting gives the public the opportunity to comment on anything that happened during the meeting. Sandler noted that Board meetings have been shorter now, and there may be discussion about allowing a written public comment option.

Sandler moved, seconded by Peterson, to adjourn. All present voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

President

Attest