

## OBERLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**September 14, 2023**

President Meredith Gadsby called to order the regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. Roll call: Phyllis Yarber Hogan, Marcia Peterson, Lili Sandler, Meredith Gadsby, Megan Newson, and Bethany Baker were present. Melissa Stalnaker was absent. Also present were David Fausnaugh, Director, Kristin Cioffi, Fiscal Officer, and members of the public.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Linda Rothacker (PO Box 613) commented that the hand dryers in the public restrooms are too loud and bothersome. Rothacker commented that the noise from the hand dryers causes children to cry. Rothacker suggested replacing the current hand dryers with whisper-quiet models.

### MINUTES

Baker moved, seconded by Peterson, to accept Resolution # R-23-9-1, approving the minutes of the August 7, 2023 Policy Review Committee meeting. Roll call vote: Hogan, Peterson, Sandler, Gadsby, Newson, Baker, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

Gadsby noted a typo in the August 10, 2023 regular meeting minutes. Gadsby also asked about the word “worldly” as used by Aliza Weidenbaum in the Public Comments section of the minutes. Aliza Weidenbaum clarified that she meant that local civic information, such as information regarding city government-should be accessible. Peterson moved, seconded by Newson, to accept Resolution # R-23-9-2, approving the minutes of the August 10, 2023 regular meeting, as corrected. Roll call vote: Hogan, Peterson, Sandler, Gadsby, Newson, Baker, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

### FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT

Cioffi reviewed the August 2023 financial reports (Fund Status, Revenue Status, Appropriation Status, and Bank Reconciliation). Cioffi reviewed revenue and expenditure percentages and reported that the city has been given the resolutions for the 1.5 mill renewal levy. Baker moved, seconded by Sandler, to accept Resolution # R-23-9-3, accepting the August 2023 Financial Reports. Roll call vote: Hogan, Peterson, Sandler, Gadsby, Newson, Baker, ALL AYES.

MOTION PASSED

### PERSONNEL

Fausnaugh reported that he will have personnel updates next month and that there are currently two part time youth services positions posted.

### OLD BUSINESS

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Fausnaugh gave an update on the strategic planning process. The community survey has been sent to the community and is available on the library's website. Over 300 responses have been received so far. The Trustees will also receive a survey, and the staff will have an in-person planning session with the State Library. Once all of the information has been gathered and compiled, the State Library will give Fausnaugh a written report. Fausnaugh will use the data in the report to write the strategic plan, and then the Board will edit and approve the plan.

Fausnaugh reported that two updates were made to the Mission and Values Statements, as suggested at the last meeting. Fausnaugh noted that literacy was moved forward and books was added to the sentence about resources. Fausnaugh explained that the Mission and Values statements will be incorporated into the Library's Policy Manual. Gadsby thanked Fausnaugh and the staff, noting the statements are a clear distillation of what the library is committed to.

NEW BUSINESS none

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Fausnaugh reported that his written report has more statements from Kriana Bell and Stephanie Jones about The Bridge and the Backspace to help explain what happened last month. Fausnaugh reported that staff members are working on weeding the non-fiction collection. Item circulation will be used as a baseline, but an item's importance to the collection will also be considered. Fausnaugh noted that August 2023's circulation was down from August 2022's circulation. Fausnaugh commented that he is not worried about the decrease, but will keep an eye on it. Fausnaugh noted that the electronic packet sent out before the meeting did not have program attendance statistics on it, but the printed packets do. Meeting room usage was high in August.

Gadsby asked what was remodeled at the Backspace. Fausnaugh responded that furniture was moved around, and Desmond Bowen painted the entire space. Fausnaugh noted that the space looks a lot nicer, and the library saved a lot of money by having Bowen do the painting. Gadsby asked Fausnaugh to thank Bowen for his work on behalf of the Board.

Baker asked what happens to the weeded books if the Friend of OPL do not have a book sale. Fausnaugh replied that the Friends are still sorting the books, and they may keep them for future book sales or for sales in the lobby.

Hogan asked if photos or videos from The Bridge or the Backspace could be put on the website. Fausnaugh replied that the website from The Bridge and the

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Backspace has been combined with the library's website. This will make adding photos or videos easier. Baker commented that she likes having the websites combined. Peterson asked if photos could be added to the folios that the schools send out. Fausnaugh replied that he would look into that.

Gadsby commented that everyone has seen the library's letter in response to the chicken hatching protest. Gadsby credited Fausnaugh with drafting the response and noted that she agrees that it was the right time to answer questions. Baker thanked Fausnaugh and Gadsby for the letter. Baker commented that the letter is clear and has been handled professionally.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION none

Hogan moved, seconded by Peterson, to adjourn. Roll call vote: Hogan, Peterson, Sandler, Gadsby, Newson, Baker, ALL AYES. The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

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President

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Attest