

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**NEW ALBANY-FLOYD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**AUGUST 1, 2022**

Presiding Officer: Steve Burks, President

Board Members present: Erica Lawrence, Kate Moore, Amy Niemeier, Pamela Poe, and Roger Whaley

Board Members absent: Ann Carruthers

Staff Members present: Melissa Merida, Sandra Fortner, Danna Bush, Abby Johnson, Luis Munoz, and Laura Wilkins

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order in the Strassweg Auditorium at 5:31 pm.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval and signing of Board minutes for July 11 meeting*
- B. Approval of Bills and Invoices to be paid*
- C. Set Board Meeting for September 12*
- D. Table discussion to update Board Bylaws*

Ms. Poe moved: That the consent agenda be approved.

Seconded by: Mr. Whaley

Motion: approved unanimously

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Luis Munoz reported that today marks the one year anniversary of the food pantry being in operation. The media did a TV segment that ran Saturday, Sunday, and Monday sharing our service to over 200 individuals a month. The News & Tribune ran a front-page article on the food pantry and highlighted the success of Summer Lunches which served a total of 1261 meals.

**PERSONNEL**

Sandra Fortner had no news to report.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Merida reported that the Duke Energy Foundation will be giving over \$11,400 for our general fund from a tax agreement designed to give back to the county. Additionally, we have been awarded a Samtec Cares grant in the amount of \$11,500 to purchase a MakerSpace digital art studio for Carnegie.

Attendance numbers at Central, Carnegie and Galena are just about up to the pre-COVID numbers.

Summer Reading Program numbers ran about 5,000 this year which is about 1,000 short from the pre-COVID numbers.

Cultural Pass surpassed the pre-COVID numbers with over 4,000 participants.

Summer Lunches were a success.

InstaLibrary numbers are a little lower, but still reached a significant amount of children. We are looking into rearranging and modifying the program.

Strong book clubs were held this month with positive responses.

The *Ate by 10* exhibit, an art show around food and food insecurities, will open at the Carnegie on Thursday.

Carnegie construction from the tree damage a year ago is mostly complete.

The new chiller is in at Central and the fence is up.

Construction on the front porch started today and should be completed in about a month.

A new glass company has been hired to replace the glass entrance doors on the side.

Two individuals have expressed concerns over books we have in our collection. Ms. Merida is in communication with them in hopes of answering their questions. If communicating with them does not appease them, she will encourage them to fill out a Request for Reconsideration form.

A new mileage rate of \$.52 was calculated which is the average of the federal and state mileage rates.

Mr. Burks mentioned that he has been in contact with the city's attorney about the possibility of a crosswalk down Scribner where the parking lot is located due to the high concern during construction.

## **FOUNDATION REPORT**

### **New Foundation Members:**

Mr. Whaley shared that the portfolio value has dropped due to the economic situation. The Foundation voted to give an \$8,000 check to the library to use as the library sees fit.

The Foundation would like to have our approval for two new Foundation members, Melanie Hughes and Natasha Finn.

Ms. Moore moved: To approve Melanie Hughes and Natasha Finn for the Foundation board.

Seconded by: Ms. Lawrence

Motion: approved unanimously

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Building Committee:**

Ms. Merida reported that she has only received one RFP from Pendleton for the solar panel project. She is waiting for two more libraries to send their RFPs to us for review per the board's request in July.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Proposed Partnership with Friends of Old Town Clock Church:**

FOTCC purchased a section of the visitor center that is being built next to the church. There is an opportunity to move the Underground Railroad and Lucy exhibit to the visitor center. Mr. Burks suggested that Jerry Finn be invited to a future meeting to discuss this potential project. Board members are to send questions to Melissa.

### **Job Descriptions:**

Ms. Merida presented the Central Library Leader job description. This position will cover both the operations of the Central Library and the supervision of employees. Two positions were combined to create this one position.

Ms. Niemeier moved: To accept the new job description.  
Seconded by: Mr. Whaley  
Motion: approved unanimously

E-rate Commitment:

Ms. Merida presented the annual resolution that needs to be signed to join Indiana State Library Consortium for Public Library Internet Access for funding year July 1, 2023 through June 20, 2024.

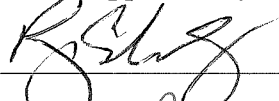
Mr. Whaley moved: That the Commitment to Join Indiana State Library Consortium for Public Library Internet Access for funding year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 be approved.



Seconded by: Ms. Niemeier  
Motion: approved unanimously

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Reviewed and approved by Board of Trustees.....September 12, 2022

  
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Erica Lawrence  
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Katie B. Moore  
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Pamela Pe  
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