

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NEW ALBANY-FLOYD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MAY 5, 2025

Presiding Officer: Pamela Poe, Vice President

Board Members present: Steve Burks, Ann Carruthers, Erica Lawrence, Amy Niemeier, and Roger Whaley

Board Members absent: Kate Ziady

Staff Members present: Melissa Merida Foster, Erin McCorkle, Sandra Fortner, Luis Munoz, Ashley Martin, Aaron Williams, and Payton Barger

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order in the Strassweg Auditorium at 5:32 pm.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval and signing of Board minutes of April 7*
- B. Approval of Bills and Invoices paid*
- C. Set Board meeting for June 2*

Mr. Burks moved: That the consent agenda be approved.
Seconded by: Mr. Whaley
Motion: approved unanimously

PUBLIC INPUT

None

PERSONNEL

Sandra Fortner reported that Patrick Yarusso has been chosen as the interim Central Leader. Jeremy Armstrong has been selected as the Human Resources Assistant, and will begin that role when a replacement is found for his Librarian Assistant position. The Adult Services Librarian, Museum Educator, and Librarian Assistant positions are still open. Summer interns will return for the season, including several from last year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Attendance was very good at the secondary art show reception at the CAC (450 attendees) and the elementary art show reception at Central (1,607 attendees). The summer reading theme is "All Star Readers!" and the SRP Kickoff is May 31. Readers will earn a drawstring backpack for five hours of reading, and a pin for every two hours after that. This year, the Cultural Pass has changed to an app instead of paper booklets. The Central Maker Space is coming along and equipment is being ordered quickly due to tariff concerns. SB 1 passed with some drastic cuts and funding changes. Many aspects of the bill are unknown, including how it will be implemented. LIT (local income tax), which makes up 39% of our budget, is being completely changed and the Library's distribution will be reduced. At the state

level, State Library was cut by 30%, and connectivity grants and INSPIRE were eliminated. We benefit from the State Library subsidizing many services. Their new budget starts in July, so it is currently unknown what services they will cut.

The Board asked about the future of staffing. The Library’s stance is to keep operating as usual until the financial situation is more clear, while being strategic about staffing roles and structure. The READI grant that was awarded to the County Council is still in motion; it appears the project will continue moving forward.

Plans to operate the Town Clock Church Visitors Center as a branch will not move forward. The Library will continue to be involved with the exhibit.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Mr. Whaley reported that at the end of March, the Foundation’s investment balance was \$647,017.87.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Constituent complaints:

Steve Burks reported that he has been contacted several times regarding the unhoused patrons around the property. The Board discussed the role and public perception of the Library, and requested talking points to share with constituents when these conversations arise.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy Updates:

This month, Staff Policies 3.03, 3.05, 3.07, 4.01, 4.03, 7.06, and 7.08 have been updated.

Mr. Burks moved: That the Policies be approved as presented.

Seconded by: Ms. Lawrence

Motion: approved unanimously

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Burks moved: That the meeting be adjourned.

Seconded by: Ms. Niemeier

Motion: approved unanimously

Reviewed and approved by Board of Trustees.....June 2, 2025











