

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wayne County Public Library**

Monday, November 21, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Wooster Branch, Conference Room

ROLL CALL: Peter Abramo, Bill Bailey, Francey Morris, Sandy Wenger, Pat Neyhart, Tricia Pycraft, Doug Drushal

Also Present: Jennifer Shatzer, Director; Christopher Bailey, Fiscal Officer; Hayley Tracy-Bursley, Assistant Director; Donna Teece, Deputy Fiscal Officer; approximately 190 guests.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Drushal called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Mr. Drushal asked the guests to hold any comments related to the petition regarding library materials until the end of the meeting. There were no other comments.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES:

Mr. Neyhart moved to approve the October 17, 2022, Regular Board meeting minutes, and Ms. Wenger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ACCEPTANCE OF COMMITTEE MINUTES:

Ms. Pycraft moved to approve the November 16, 2022, Human Resource Committee minutes, and Mr. Abramo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Narrative report as distributed: Ms. Shatzer noted our statistics of physical materials in the past year have increased 33%, eMedia 7%, issuance of library cards 38%, home delivery visits 38% and public computer usage, 101%. Year-to-date, we had over 44,000 patrons attend library programs. This shows that we are making a strong comeback from the pandemic.

Ms. Shatzer expressed her appreciation and gratitude to the community for supporting our operating levy. We are excited it passed so we can continue the work that helped make the above statistics.

It has been a very business month celebrating our 125th anniversary with 12 author visits, programs, and sponsoring an author visit at the Wooster Schools.

On the Rittman building project, Ms. Shatzer noted upon excavation, extensive shale not discovered in geotechnical studies and an old foundation was discovered. This will cause extra work with the geo piers. Because of this and the weather not cooperating, the pouring of the foundation is put on hold until spring. We expect to be a little behind on the projected completion date.

Long awaited masonry repairs on Main library's south side are in progress.

A meeting was set up with Seaman Corporation, Hicks Roofing, and Imhoff Construction to discuss replacing the lower portion roof and masonry repairs in this area. Seaman Corporation has graciously offered to provide materials and labor for this portion of the roof. The scope of the Main Library renovation had changed from adding a second story to this section of this roof to just inside renovations which will begin in the spring.

Ms. Shatzer reported that we received two requests for the relocation of two specific books in the Children's Department. We also received a petition for the removal of all materials that contain pictures and written details concerning sex, sexual orientation, puberty, genitalia, transgender, LGBTQIA, homosexuality, and drag queens from the Children's area

and only have them available with parent's permission. We have several policies in place that pertain to this issue:

- Material Selection Policy recognizes the wide diversity of tastes, interests, and cultural/educational background of the community. It also addresses the process to be followed for any objection of a specific book.
- Unattended Children policy notes children under age twelve should always be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- Regular Library Card notes that the parent is responsible for children under age 18 for the type of materials that are checked out on the card. We do have a 3 for Me card that allows a child to check out 3 books on their own. We did find a loophole in this policy and are currently tightening it up. If the parent was not present at the time the card was issued, a notification will be sent to the parent/guardian. If the parent does not want the child to have the card, it will be cancelled.

Administrative Items: We had 5 resignations and 2 recommended hires. Ms. Wenger moved to approve the administrative items and Mr. Abramo seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance and Audit Committee:

October 2022 Financial Report: Balance Sheet is currently at \$15.5 million. Star Ohio interest rate is at 3.31%. In the Statement of Cash Position, total encumbrance is \$3.4 million with \$567,000 in the general fund. In the Income Statement, October's PLF is 10.7% above estimates, with the YTD PLF at 13.1% above estimates. Mr. Neyhart moved to accept the September 2022 financial report, and Mr. Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Resolution 36-2022 October 2022 Regular Donations: Ms. Morris moved to accept the October regular donations and Ms. Pycraft seconded. The motion passed by roll call.

Facilities Committee: No report.

Human Resources Committee: The committee heard updates of the health insurance package for 2023. It increased 9.6% and employees will be financially impacted by the package they chose. She noted staff are very satisfied with our current health insurance program. Personnel policies were updated including adding a classification of substitute, part time staff will not have to use PTO for weeks with a holiday, clarification for employees participating in library programs, staff at branches now have key cards and not keys, updates to dress codes and update to non-solicitation policy. Mr. Drushal noted it was approved in committee, and the motion passed unanimously.

Staff recognition was also reviewed. We will not be having our Thank-You meal this year but would like to continue the tradition of a Buehler's gift card for staff: \$100 full-time employees, \$50 for part-time employees. Motion was approved in committee and passed unanimously.

Operations Committee: No Report

Rittman Ad Hoc Committee: No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Drushal left for another meeting and turned the meeting over to Vice-President, Mr. Abramo.

2023 Scheduled Closings: Ms. Shatzer wants to change our October Columbus Day to Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day. Mr. Bailey moved to accept closings and change of Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day, and Ms. Pycraft seconded. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you from NAMI in Waynes/Holmes County for participating in the exhibit and bringing more awareness to mental health and the arts. Thank you to Debbie Starcher from the kindergarten team at Northwestern Schools for talking to the students about the library. Artwork from Ms. Pope, Ms. Tomweiler and Ms. Kelly's classrooms. Ms. Shatzer read correspondences from patrons who were not able to attend but wanted to respond to the petition in support of the library's policies and procedures and material selection.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Speakers were asked to sign up before the meeting and ground rules were made. Below is the list of speakers and their stance on the petition.

1. Nancy Dollard – Against the petition.
2. Lyn Shoots – Against the petition.
3. April Fleming - Against the petition.
4. Nicole Edgerton – Against the petition.
5. Rev. Walter Clark – Against the petition
6. Beth Ciha – Against the petition.
7. Leslie Bays – Against the petition.
8. Mark Gooch – Against the petition.
9. Bala Fodor – Against the petition.
10. Carrie Perkins – Support the petition.
11. Melissa Hughes – Support the petition
12. Alison Schmidt – Against the petition.
13. Desiree Weber - Against the petition.
14. Krista Emerson – Against the petition.
15. Marcy Campbell – Against the petition.
16. Denise Bostdorff – Against the petition.
17. Jo Harper – Against the petition.
18. Tori Chellis – Against the petition.
19. Chris Stormer – Against the petition.
20. Tim Breiner – Against the petition.
21. Ian Burns – Against the petition.
22. Monica Florence – Against the petition.
23. Doug Jones – Against the petition.
24. Lucy Ewing – Against the petition.
25. Jillian Hartman – Against the petition.
26. Matt Krain – Against the petition.
27. Noah Gochnauer – Against the petition.
28. Aimee Skaggs - Support the petition.
29. Artemis Swanson – Against the petition.
30. Rabbi Joan Friedman - Against the petition.
31. Shoshanah Inwood – Against the petition.
32. David Rice – Against the petition.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Wenger moved for meeting adjournment and Ms. Pycraft seconded. Meeting ended at 7:41 p.m.

Doug Drushal, President

Francey Morris, Secretary