

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JUNE 25, 2024

TCPL Board Members Present: Melisa Sidle, President; Blixxy Taetzsch, Liam Murphy, Lis Chabot, Shelley Wong, Kathy Weinberg, Darrell Long, Nina Scholtz

Board Members Excused: Mimi Townsend, Christina Brewington, Jason Moore, Marli Stahler

Also Present: Kate DeVoe, Head of Circulation; Kerry Barnes, TCPL Foundation Executive Director; Rich John, County Legislator; Arel LeMaro, Director of Facilities

With a quorum, meeting convened at 4:06 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 24-40

A **MOTION** was made by L. Murphy and seconded by B. Taetzsch to approve the agenda with the addition of Executive Committee meeting date and the addition of Arel LeMaro's Report. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MAY 28, 2024, MINUTES DOC 24-41

A **MOTION** was made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by K. Weinberg to approve the minutes. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

I, Treasurer, Blixxy Taetzsch, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed payroll #12 dated 6/13/24, totaling \$60,043.61. I have reviewed all vouchers presented for payment, and that all disbursements are within the approved operating budget of the library, and therefore recommend that the Board of Trustees approve for payment June 2024 bills in the amount of \$121,797.01 as listed in Abstracts #17 & #18.

APPROVAL OF TCPL FUND BALANCE POLICY DOC 24-42

A **MOTION** was made by S. Wong and seconded by D. Long to approve the TCPL Fund Balance with a minor correction. Approved unanimously.

RATIFY ANNUAL AUDIT DOC 24-30

A **MOTION** was made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by S. Wong to ratify the Annual Audit. Approved unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tabor was called away unexpectedly for an emergency, DeVoe presented an oral report to supplement the report given in the June Board Materials. TCPL is participating in the FLX Road Trip which will add magazines to the Libby App. The Summer Reading Program kicked off on June 15<sup>th</sup>. TCPL is expecting the usual summer surge of patrons as school ends and are arranging extra staffing for welcoming patrons. The Library Assistant civil service list is re-opening and TCPL is offering workshops to help ensure a diverse group of candidates can be successful on that test.

REPORT BY AREL LEMARO, TOMPKINS COUNTY FACILITIES DIRECTOR

John introduced LeMaro, noting his long tenure with the County and his valued key role in ensuring County physical facilities are well-cared for. LeMaro shared that he had been involved with the design of the Library when he first came to his current position over 20 years ago. The building is in need of exterior maintenance. The Board had a wide-ranging discussion with LeMaro discussing graffiti, lighting, cameras, solar panels, impact of lost parking because of inter-city buses, trash and appropriate facilities for waiting passengers. The County is already looking into renovating the façade, working on the sidewalks and car port in the rear of the building and related repairs. The Board asked LeMaro to coordinate with Director Tabor and staff on color choices (if any) and scheduling for work. LeMaro and the Board discussed the possibility of having murals on the building and partnering in finding grant funding for such work.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sidele encouraged Board members to focus on Director Tabor's report on the Community and Staff input being gathered for the re-vamping of the Circulation Desk area with a view to sharing ideas in the July meeting. Sidele may not be able to attend the July and August meetings.

LIAISON REPORTS

**County** – Rich John, having brought Mr. LeMaro, John shared he had no other updates

**Foundation** – The Foundation has been busy updating policies, writing up procedures, organizing files, and other miscellaneous housekeeping.

The next Silent Reading Party will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> at South Hill Cider. Tickets will go on sale in early August.

Please save the date for our annual Donor Recognition Event, our Library Leaders Circle reception, which will be held on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at the South Hill Business Campus Gallery.

We have also completed our Annual Report (different from the one the Library is required to do!) and should have our Summer Appeal in homes in the next two weeks.

**Friends** – Nina Scholtz - Friends are accepting donations now. Anne Neiryneck and Chris Hallam are coordinating the Fall Sale

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A **MOTION** was made by S. Wong and seconded by B. Taetzsch to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 5:05 pm. Approved unanimously.

There being no further business, a **MOTION** was made by S. Wong and seconded by K. Weinberg at 5:40 to adjourn. Approved unanimously.

Minutes by Mary McKeon  
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by Liam Murphy  
Secretary