

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
FINAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MARCH 23, 2021

TCPL Board Members Present: Ingrid Jensen, President; Blixey Taetzsch, Anthony Martinez, Jason Moore, Don Trotter, Martha Hardesty, Nina Miller, Nina Scholtz, Liam Murphy, Shelley Wong, LaWanda Cook, Maureen Gilroy

Board Members Excused: Thompson Terry, Melisa Sidle

Also Present: Michelle Benjamin, Business Manager; Mary McKeon, Administrative Manager; Suzanne Smith Jablonski, TCPL Foundation Executive Director; Teresa Vadakin, Head of Adult Services; Tom Fredette and Meghan Molloy, Adult Services Librarians

With a quorum now present, meeting convened at 4:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 21-24

A **MOTION** was made by N. Scholtz and seconded by M. Hardesty to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.

STAFF PRESENTATION by Tom Fredette and Meghan Molloy, AS Librarians

Tom and Meghan gave a comprehensive summary of Adult Services virtual appointments offered. Patrons can Book a Librarian for classes and workshops to learn how to navigate eBook, employment, genealogy and local history resources. Also offered virtually by Cady Fontana includes sewing, craft basics and step by step cricket design, or book an appointment with Josh Burns for a tutorial on makerspace software. Joyce Wheatley offers appointments to learn about the readers' advisory tools to help you find your next great book.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 23, 2021 DRAFT MINUTES DOC 21-25

A **MOTION** was made by L. Murphy and seconded by M. Hardesty to approve the minutes. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

I, President, Ingrid Jensen, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed payrolls #5 dated 3/11/21, #6 dated 3/25/21 totaling \$95,133.91. 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 March 2021 bills in the amount of \$206,415.57 as listed in Abstracts #7, #8 and #9.

ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENT PROTECTION PROGRAM LOAN

Accepted unanimously.

NYS ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE

Business Manager Benjamin reviewed the recommend corrections for the Annual Sate Report for the trustees.

LIAISON REPORTS

Foundation – S. Smith Jablonski was unable to provide an oral report due to technical issues, so conveyed in writing after the meeting the following Foundation activity highlights: 1) Fundraising YTD progress nearing the end of Q1 is 17% toward the annual goal; 2) The Readathon has 28 reader-fundraisers signed up for the April 24 virtual event, slated to raised \$25,000; 3) planning for a virtual “Inside Story” event, with a goal of \$22,000, is underway to take place in June; date and time to follow shortly; 4) TCPLF has six board committees all of which will have their first meeting in the next month; and 5) Foundation staff are resuming more in-office hours in Q2.

Friends – D. Trotter previously reported donations were trickling in and currently have picked up. Last day for donations is April 10. He mentioned Library days are April 21 & 22 while May 1, the sale is open to the public.

SEARCH COMMITTEE

B. Taetzsch is in the process of scheduling additional meetings to review the Civil Service exam and applicants for a consensus of the top applicants. There is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow at 10:00 that may be cancelled if the test scores are not available.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A **MOTION** was made by J. Moore and seconded by A. Martinez to adjourn to Executive Session at 4:53. Approved unanimously. Discussion of the transition to an interim director and search process progress. A **MOTION** was made by M. Hardesty and seconded by Liam Murphy to adjourn Executive Session to public session at 5:25pm. The board voted to offer Susan Currie the position of interim director.

APPROVAL OF THE RESOLUTION TO APPOINT POSITION OF INTERIM DIRECTOR

Whereas, the Board of Trustees of the Tompkins County Public Library is conducting a search to fill the Library Director position in anticipation of the retirement of Annette Birdsall, the current Library Director, and

Whereas, there is a need to hire an interim Library Director to aid in the transition prior to filling the position on a permanent basis, be it therefore

Resolved, that the Board of the Trustees of Tompkins County Public Library authorizes the executive committee to offer Susan Currie the position of interim Library Director and, should she accept, approves her to serve in that position until the Library Director position is filled on a permanent basis, not to exceed a period of one year.

A second vote empowering the Executive Committee to negotiate a salary for 40 hours per week for said interim director. A **MOTION** was made by M. Hardesty and seconded by S. Wong to approve compensation. Approved unanimously.

A **MOTION** by J. Moore and seconded by M. Hardesty to adjourn Executive Session at 5:28 PM. Approved Unanimously.

Recorded by Mary McKeon
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by Blixey Taetzsch
Secretary