

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

TCPL Board Members Present: Martha Hardesty and Ingrid Jensen, Co-Presidents; LaWanda Cook, Maureen Gilroy, Jason Moore, Liam Murphy, Nina Scholtz, Melisa Sidle, Blix Taetzsch, Don Trotter, and Shelley Wong.

Board Members Excused: Nina Miller.
Also Present: Michelle Benjamin, Business Manager.

With a quorum now present, the meeting convened at 4:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: PRESENTED ORALLY BY I. JENSEN

A MOTION was made by D. Trotter and seconded by L. Murphy to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.

TCPL LABOR MANAGEMENT

B. Taetzsch presented a proposal to create a TCPL Labor Management Committee. Taetzsch explained the goal would be to establish regular communication between union and management, and that these kinds of committees are a best practice in organizations with unionized employees. Taetzsch proposed the board offer this to the staff unions if they are interested and that if the unions agree to participate, the board could select one to two trustees who would represent the Board on the committee.

Trustees reacted in favor. L. Murphy made the point that public libraries are about resources and communication, and a Labor Management Committee would be consistent with those values.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION was made by M. Hardesty and seconded by J. Moore to adjourn to executive session. Approved unanimously.

The trustees then discussed who on the board would be willing to serve on the Labor Management Committee, should the unions agree to participate.

The trustees then discussed options for interim leadership of the library, and the need to appoint an assistant director of the library for continuity purposes under Civil Service law.

A MOTION was made by L. Cook and seconded by J. Moore to adjourn from executive to public session at 5:55 p.m.

A MOTION was made by L. Murphy and seconded by L. Cook to appoint M. Hardesty and B. Taetzsch as representatives to a TCPL Labor Management Committee should the unions decide to agree to the proposal. Passed unanimously.

A MOTION was made by J. Moore and seconded by S. Wong to offer the position of TCPL Assistant Director to Teresa Vadakin, head of TCPL adult services, at a salary of 95,000 a year. Passed unanimously.

A MOTION was made by J. Moore and seconded by L. Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 p.m. Approved unanimously.

Recorded by Ingrid Jensen
Co-President

Endorsed by Blix Taetzsch
Secretary