

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the
ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

**THURSDAY, April 21, 2016
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library**

CALL TO ORDER:

Joe Mineo called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mary Frances Baugh, Jackie Breakstone, Joe Mineo, Diane Papesch, Mary Scutella.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. William Garvey, Kathleen Keys, Elspeth Koehle, Trevor Pearson.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Library: Erin Wincek, Blasco Coordinator; Patrice Berchtold, Administrative Officer II; Marie Lewis, Executive Assistant/Officer Manager. Marion Gallivan, Friends of the Library. Ed DiMattio, County Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mary Scutella made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 18, 2016. Diane Papesch seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

HEARING OF CITIZENS: None.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL LIAISON (Ed DiMattio):

Ed DiMattio stated that the County Executive would like the county to pay for the entire Blasco Redesign project. He stated that he is not sure how Council will vote on this. He understands that it was not the original plan to have the county pay for the entire plan; his understanding was that the Foundation was raising the money to pay for the project. The question was asked that if County Council agreed to pay for the entire project, could the Foundation pay them back so that all of the work could be done at once? Ed stated he would not have any of this information until after the Council meeting tonight. He stated that there were questions that he hoped would be answered at the meeting.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY UPDATE (Marion Gallivan):

Marion stated that the Friends had a huge book collection. They had four van loads of books. They are having the cookbook sale on May 5, 6, 7, 2016. The Great American book sale will be the week of June 12th.

REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (Erin Wincek):

Erin introduced Marie Lewis who is the new Executive Secretary/Office Manager. She is observing today because she will be Patrice's back up.

Erin stated that we will be asking for about \$180,000 of the \$242,000 that we were unable to spend in our 2015 budget, due to the state budget impasse. We have some projects that we are requesting to use this money for. Because of the master plan request, we are waiting to ask for this money. \$39,000 of District money was requested for the District to spend their portion of the 2015 budget money.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Erin Wincek):

Erin stated that Mary will be off until the beginning of May. We have a couple of key new employees including Marie Lewis, who comes from the purchasing department. We are very excited to have her. Correy Connelly has been a clerk for 12 years and has been hired as the circulation manager. We are very excited to have her experience in this position. We are hiring an outreach manager; the posting came

down and we are expecting a lot of good applicants. We are celebrating National Library Week and poetry week. Comic Con is coming May 21st from 9-4; this is a huge event for the library. If Council approves the entire Blasco redesign plan, the Foundation could focus on raising money for programming and for essentials for the IdeaLAB such as technology items. We are planning committee meetings now to begin working on the strategic plan. We are hoping to launch the strategic plan in the summer.

STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Erin Wincek):

Erin developed a different format for statistics. Under programs, we had 4,186 participants in March; that was a 203% increase from last year. We saw a 97% increase in the number of programs offered. We had a 3% increase in visits and saw a 6% increase in circulation. These statistics show incredible progress! Next month we are starting to lend wifi hotspots (for a lending period of one week). We will have the ability to remotely shut them off after one week, if not returned. We have purchased 15 to start with.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT CONSULTANT (Erin Wincek):

District Negotiations were held 4/20/16. Negotiated was a \$283,000 budget. The Board will need to vote on this budget next month. Ann Kruger, Commonwealth Library liaison, is visiting the area this week and Tony is taking her to some of the independent libraries.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES: None.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Your packet is full of newspaper clippings! Please take a minute to read the editorial that was in the newspaper from the Advisory Board, the Friends and the Foundation. It was very well written and there was been no negative feedback. Joe Mineo was in attendance at the press release for the extra hours in Edinboro. The community seems very happy with the extended hours and hopefully we see circulation statistics go up.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

The next Advisory Board meeting is May 19, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.