

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

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**THURSDAY, February 18, 2016  
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jackie Breakstone, Kathleen Keys, Joe Mineo, Diane Papesch, Trevor Pearson, Mary Scutella.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mary Frances Baugh, Dr. William Garvey, Elspeth Koehle.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Library: Tony Keck, District Consultant; Erin Wincek, Blasco Coordinator; Patrice Berchtold, Administrative Officer II. Marion Gallivan, Friends of the Library.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mary Scutella made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 21, 2016. Jackie Breakstone seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

\*We would like to welcome Trevor Pearson to the board. He is replacing Chris Matheis as Kyle Foust's District 5 representative.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS:** None.

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL LIAISON (Ed DiMattio):** None.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY UPDATE (Marion Gallivan):**

Marion stated that the Friend's Romance Book Sale was very successful. Senator Wiley sponsored the sale, so they received extra publicity. They made over \$1,300 on the sale, which is really good. The Friends will hold another book collection on April 16<sup>th</sup> from 10-2.

**REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (Erin Wincek):**

February is when the county closes out the books from 2015, therefore, no financial report was received.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Erin Wincek):**

Bostwick Design presented the Library Master Plan and cost estimate for the redesign to Erie County Council. It has been endorsed by the Library Board and the Erie Regional Library Foundation. We are now talking about financing. We are having a Made In Erie workshop at Blasco, in conjunction with Edinboro University and Penn State Behrend, working with urban manufacturing designers. This project started from Innovation Erie. They were receiving applicants who did not have good designs, so they felt there was a need to have a design workshop. Another partnership is with the Downtown YMCA, and we are working with Mr. Marcus Atkinson on programs, including a concert to be held in the Hirt Auditorium for teens and their families. We have hired a teen librarian, so we are working on enhancing our teen programs. We are also working on a grant partnership for a Shaping Tomorrow Grant. Last fall Marcy Hall was trained to be an Ice House trainer. The Ice House is a program that encourages an entrepreneurial mindset. The entire county is participating by sending one person from each county department to the Ice House training. Marcy Hall from the library is one of the trainers. This training

teaches people how to think differently about how to solve problems and do a better job at work. There is a county wide push to train as many people in the community as possible. Saturday Blasco is hosting a Local Music Project CD Release Party, and many events are planned in the Hirt Auditorium and throughout the library.

Erin mentioned that as you were aware, the library was given a new position in the County's 2016 budget. The position is an Administrative Officer II position dedicated to supporting the Director and to helping move the library's initiatives forward. Erin announced that Patrice Berchtold has been promoted to this position.

**STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Erin Wincek):**

Erin is updating how and what we collect for statistics. This will be an ongoing process. Programming was down in January because of the reduced hours and staff not being allowed to travel to branches to do programs. Because of community partnerships we have been able to add so many more programs without increasing our budget. The board has noticed that the library has been proactive in developing new ideas and programs and are leading the way!

Trevor asked if the library could give books to the Women's Center for patients to read. Marion Gallivan stated that the Friends would be happy to donate books to the Women's Hospital at Hamot.

Mary Scutella also suggested using people as a resource for programming, such as getting volunteers to providing gardening classes, sewing tips, learning about tools, for a skill share program or resource day.

**REPORT OF THE DISTRICT CONSULTANT (Tony Keck)**

Tony stated that the Governor's budget came out for 2016-17 and there is an increase of 2.16%. There was an initiative throughout the state for job creation and the State Librarian wanted to know how libraries could be utilized. We submitted a plan for utilization to him. Pennsylvania library workers and trustees are invited to apply for professional development grants up to \$1,200. The grant would be provided on a reimbursement basis and is available for training that addresses several topics (see handout in packet).

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:** None.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** Your packet is full of newspaper clippings!

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:**

Mary Scutella and Elspeth Koehle's first terms end June 30, 2016. Joe will begin working on this.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Joe stated that the final committee meeting on the strategic plan was held and the Strategic Plan Overview was distributed. The Overview consists of the Library's vision, mission, values and strategic initiatives and goals. Many action sheets were developed to go along with the three major initiatives and goals of Connections, Collections and Capacity. The actions sheets will be prioritized and groups will be formed to work on each area. Jackie suggested to not use ECPL in the vision statement, but to spell it out. Diane Papesch made a motion to accept and approve the strategic plan overview with the recommended change to spell out ECPL. Trevor Pearson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**The next Advisory Board meeting is March 17, 2016.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.