

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

THURSDAY, May 17, 2018
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library

CALL TO ORDER:

Diane Papesch called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Liz Allen, Heather Canfield, Felix Lohitai, Diane Papesch, Trevor Pearson, Mary Ann Tempestini.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Julie Theiss-Boam, Morgan Palombi, Devi Subedi.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Erin Wincek, Library Executive Director; Patrice Berchtold, Administrative Officer. Carol Gettinger, Friends of the Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 19, 2018

Trevor Pearson made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 19, 2018. Heather Canfield seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

HEARING OF CITIZENS: None.

REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL LIAISON: None.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY UPDATE (Carol Gettinger):

Carol reported that there are some changes to the bookstore. The buyer is retiring and they have found a replacement for her. They have also obtained a wireless credit card machine that they will use in the bookstore and for the Great American Book Sale.

REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (Erin Wincek):

Erin mentioned that we are holding several half-time positions open due to some union bumping going on in another county department. We should have some savings in our personnel lines due to those openings. Everything else on the financial report is on track.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Erin Wincek):

Events – Erin stated that United Way’s Young Leaders are here today in the Idea Lab. This evening the Chamber of Commerce is holding its Business After Hours at the library to feature the Idea Lab from 5-7pm. Erin and Tammy presented about our Teen Reading Lounge this month at The Pennsylvania Humanities Council Advisory meeting regarding our work with Erie Teens.

Phase II - Teen Space – Bids have been received from two construction groups and should be awarded by the end of next week.

Summer Library Challenge – This year’s theme is “Libraries Rock” and includes a focus on community programs, along with reading. The program runs from June 11-August 11th. The Friends sponsor the Summer Library Challenge.

Security – Beginning on May 21st, Blasco will have full-time security to ensure staff and the public are safe and secure while at work. This follows multiple incidents over a short period of time. We are

grateful for County Council's 7-0 vote to approve the additional security. We will evaluate the service before deciding to continue it for 2019.

Erie Regional Library Foundation – The Foundation welcomed two new members: Michael Outlaw and Meghan Waskiewicz. Their current focus is on a possible expansion of the Edinboro branch and they will be working on a strategic plan.

Skylight – Work on the skylight is underway and they are on schedule to be finished the second week of June. The library has remained open for the entire project.

Workforce Development Panel – Sheryl Thomas sat on a panel at the annual PA Workforce and Economic Development Conference in Hershey, PA representing our work collaborating with local workforce development agencies.

The Great American Read – The library is sponsoring the Great American Read this year, along with WQLN.

Idea Lab –The Idea Lab has been open for six months and we have seen some very impressive results: 271 programs held since November reaching 2,365 people; 32 community partners have offered free programs to library patrons; Idea Lab programs have gone on the road to our branches; and a consultant helped the Idea Lab team find better structure and conducted training for all staff. It has been a very exciting six months!

Bookmobile – Our bookmobile is around 10-12 years old and that is the average lifespan of a bookmobile. We would like to re-wrap the bookmobile but there is bodywork that needs to be done. There was discussion around putting money into a re-wrap when it may not last very long or looking into purchasing a new vehicle. Mobile services and delivery service options were discussed.

STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Erin Wincek):

Sheryl has put together another beautiful design for statistics. When looking at circulation statistics, some locations are going up and others are going down, but overall we are staying consistent. Digital usage has increased more than 10% over last year. Jude Shingle was hired as Emerging Technologies librarian and Libby Martin was hired as Youth Services librarian. 3,627 items were requested by other libraries, including district and out-of-state libraries in the month of April.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT CONSULTANT (Erin Wincek):

Training - Erin stated that the trustee workshop will be held on July 13 in Franklin. Tentative time is 9-3:30 and is open to library directors and trustees and will cover board/director relationships and responsibilities. All are welcome to attend.

District Library Center News - The District Library Center meeting was held in Altoona in late April and Erin and Marcia attended. The Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped presented (and also came and presented at Blasco last week). They have a lot of resources that are available to our patrons at no cost. Before the end of May all ECPL locations will have the ability to demonstrate the book reading devices that are available through the mail from the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. As part of our partnership, ECPL children's services will have access to multi-sensory kits for story-time use. (They have the first one- "bugs" which has a puppet that turns into a butterfly and books in large print, braille, and ones that make sounds.

POWER Library certification – The State provides a number of databases to libraries without cost to us. As part of this, they check-in to make sure we are following their guidelines. The next check-in/certification will be this summer. This occurs every 3 years. We've given the check-list a glance over,

and no issues are expected.

District News- District Newsletter went out on Monday, May 14, 2018 and we hope everyone received it. Meadville has posted a video of their recovery on their website. They hope to be open in their main library building in early June. Union City Library is celebrating their 110 year anniversary this month.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES: None.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

There are multiple newspaper clippings and articles included the board packet.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:

A trustee training will be held in Franklin on July 13, 2018 tentatively from 9-3:30.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Liz Allen mentioned that she met the Seawolves coach, Santiago Garrido, who is from the Dominican Republic and is multi-lingual. She was very impressed with him and suggested that we approach him to do some type of program at the library.

The next Advisory Board meeting is June 21, 2018.

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