



Library Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, September 16th

ZOOM: 983 3133 2641 | Passcode: 821018

12:00 pm

Allen Rosenthal Pearson	Murphy Tempestini Knuth	Boam Conway Aoh
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MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at: 12:02

Members present: Trevor Pearson, Martha Knuth, Liz Allen, Quyen Aoh, Julie Boam, Bill Conway, Mary Ann Tempestini

Others: Andrew, Alyssa, Deana

2. Approval of Minutes – August 19, 2021

Motion by

3. Library Reports

- a. Report of Acting Director (Delivered by Adult Services Manager Andrew Miller)

Collection survey to help goals and targets, learn what patrons want to see more of. Its basic because we want it to be easy for patrons to respond. We’d love to hear from non-library users, too. Available in paper form at all service points.

We’ve been issuing e-cards to all newly registered EC3PA students, and we can upgrade them to check-out cards if they visit in-person. We’re hosting their “intro to computers” class at Blasco for at least the next month while they await equipment.

Preliminary budget reviewed without changes by administration, next will be to council. Flat budget with the exception of newsbank and a new position for heritage room.

MCK Planning process moves along, following public meeting. Bostwick will create a report for us to consider what might be best for the location. Questions?

Martha asked about the collection survey, if we can share with community centers. Liz shared that it seems there are many new users at the library, or returning after absence, and that their feedback would be valuable as well.

b. Review of Financial Report

Financial report thorough august. Not a lot of changes overall: low on revenue, we're at about 6% under budget where we should be, but there are large renewals that transpire at end of 4th quarter. Everything else is going well and right on target. No questions.

c. Statistical and Other Reports

Cards issued increased over last year.

d. Report of District Consultant

County Coordination Aid (CCA) & Plans for Use: As of September 9, no update from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries on submitting plans and requests for 2022 aid. The figures, though, should be the same as last year, since state aid was level funded.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Funding

The Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL) recently released preliminary plans for distributing ARP funds to libraries. Though specific divisions of amounts (only estimates) nor guidelines have been released, the application period is anticipated to open in October and can hopefully be applied to more needs than the realm of the CARES funds.

Waivers

Many libraries have been asking for updates regarding waivers related to library operations and standards. At this time, OCL states that the waiver process will be similar to 2020, which is anticipated to be included in the Plans for Use application. With that said, they advise strongly that libraries plan on returning to standards in 2022, with a more formal and detailed process to justify the need for waivers forthcoming.

Evolving District Services

Cathi Alloway, a recently retired director from Schlow Regional Library (State College), is leading a state-appointed committee about the direction of district services. Since the last revision of the code and regulations, library service in general has changed and, potentially, so has the purpose or direction of library districts.

Library personnel and trustees from across the state are invited to participate in focus groups to share input. Cathi notes that this is for broad conversation, not individual district matters; with the opportunities comes limits that cannot be changed fiscally or legally at this time due to the state's codes and regulations. Sessions will be recorded; no confidentiality is assumed.

Trustees are invited and encouraged to register for one of the following sessions to join the conversation:

- Wednesday, September 22, 10 a.m. – noon
- Thursday, September 23, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

- Registration Link:

https://doodle.com/poll/zr8n5i7r3xz9mkth?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link

Other focus group sessions are scheduled for other groups of library personnel, like directors and system administrators. If an individual cannot attend a focus group or has a more detailed perspective to share, they can reach out to Cathi via email at allowaycs@gmail.com

Delivery Truck

The interlibrary loan delivery truck recently endured a transmission rebuild. The District intends to release an RFP in October in search for a new vehicle, as the current model is over the recommended age for daily use, but early estimates anticipate higher than predicted costs due to production delays and economic variables.

COVID Remembrance Book

Following ECPL's circulation of Erie County's COVID Remembrance Book, the independent libraries will rotate the book through the beginning of the year with the hopes of providing more residents with access.

KINBER

Most of the public libraries in Erie County received site visits from KINBER, which looked at technology available to staff and the public. The next phase of this project will be to prioritize technology needs and provide a list to KINBER, which they will purchase and supply to our libraries free of charge. Items include new computers and networking equipment, as can be supplied by KINBER's pool of funds.

4. Board and Committee Reports

- a. Report of County Council Liaison

none

- b. Report of Friends and ERLF

none

5. Unfinished Business

6. New Business

- a. President to appoint a nominating committee for officers

Bill volunteered, Martha appointed.

- b. Vote for meeting dates in 2022

Trevor motion to approve, Julie second, all aye.

Third Thursday @ 12pm, virtually and/or at location rotation in bylaws

January 20

February 17

March 17

April 21

May 19

June 16
July 21
August 18
September 15
October 20
November 17
December 15

Reminder: Upcoming Review of Bylaws, changes presented at October meeting

Trevor asked for bylaw changes
Will meet October at the Blasco Library with option for Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20
Bill, Martha.

- 7. Adjournment
- 8. Appendix
 - a. News Articles

MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 20, 2021

CONTACT:
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814-451-6911

Erie County Public Library offers virtual public meeting for future Millcreek Library

Erie, PA – Erie County Public Library is pleased to announce a virtual public meeting on August 31 at 6 p.m. via Zoom for the community to learn more about the future plans for the Millcreek Branch Library.

The library is collaborating with County officials and Bostwick Design Partnership to create a feasibility study for a new library facility. A [Keystone Planning Grant](#) was awarded to Erie County Public Library in November 2020 to fund a study that will inform the future of the Millcreek Branch Library. Bostwick has worked for Erie County Public Library on such past projects as the Blasco Library’s Idea Lab, Teen Space and Master Plan.

The firm will provide a series of deliverables based on public input, community studies and cost estimates. This analysis will detail the best options for a future library’s placement, facility type and degree of services offered. The study is also considering new construction versus acquisition and modification to existing properties.

Results of focus group sessions and an online survey will be presented, along with an opportunity for the public to offer additional feedback for the future of the Millcreek Branch Library. Sign up to attend the public meeting [here](#).

This project is supported in part through a grant from the Office of Commonwealth Libraries, Pennsylvania Department of Education, with funds provided from the Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund. More information about the grant and feasibility study can be found at eriecountypa.gov.

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MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 9, 2021

CONTACT:

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814-451-6928

Blasco Library to host 9/11 art exhibit

Erie, PA – The Raymond Blasco M.D. Memorial Library will host a locally produced youth art exhibit in remembrance of those lost to the 9/11 attacks and the fall of the World Trade Center's twin towers.

The exhibit was conceptualized and assembled by young members of the Youth Leadership Institute of Erie and will be installed at the Blasco Library's Teen Space on Thursday, September 9 at 5 p.m. The art exhibit is expected to remain on display throughout September.

This art exhibit complements two permanent exhibits organized by Erie's 9-11 Memorial Committee which are located at Blasco Library, an indoor multimedia exhibit including artifacts from Ground Zero and perspectives from the attacks, and an exterior exhibit comprising debris from the twin towers' collapse.

Additionally, Erie County will hold a [memorial service](#) at the 9/11 memorial on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. The public is invited to attend the event outside Blasco Library and then engage with both the youth art exhibit and memorial inside the library.

More information about the Youth Leadership Institute of Erie can be found at ylierie.org.

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MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 14, 2021

CONTACT:

Jessica Church
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814-451-6920

Erie County Public Library empowers community members to take charge with their card

Erie, PA – September is [Library Card Sign-up Month](#), a time when Erie and Crawford County libraries join the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind community members, parents, caregivers and students that signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning.

There is nothing more empowering than signing up for your own library card. Through access to technology, media resources and educational programs, a library card gives individuals the tools to succeed in the classroom and provides people of all ages opportunities to pursue their dreams and passions.

Libraries offer everything from early literacy programs to virtual homework help and GED practice resources, helping transform lives and communities through education. Through public libraries in Northwest PA, you'll find a wide variety of free educational resources and activities, including:

- Virtual and in-person programs for a wide variety of interests, ages, and skill levels
- Libby by OverDrive, an online library of e-books and digital audiobooks available through the Libby app <https://libbyapp.com/>
- Universal Class, a free resource offering online courses for building knowledge and skills in a variety of fields including business, health, education, real estate, technology, and more
- E-resources through POWER Library for reliable information on business, car repair, health and wellness, and more
- Movies, TV shows, and music to stream through Hoopla
- Wi-Fi access for personal devices as well as public access computers
- Print, copy, fax, and scan services at minimal charges
- Ever-growing collections of materials to borrow including books with large print, audiobooks on CD and Playaways (audiobooks on small, portable devices)

“Libraries play an important role in the education and development of children,” said Jessica Church, District Consultant for public libraries in Erie and Crawford Counties. “Our libraries have programs and services that offer learners of all ages and backgrounds such as Book Box programs through Erie County Public Library, Story time with Miss Julie at Stone Memorial Library in Conneautville, and even an indoor hydroponic garden at Benson Memorial Library in Titusville.”

Area libraries, along with libraries everywhere, continue to adapt and expand services to meet the evolving needs of our community. To sign up for a library card or to learn more about the library's resources and programs, please visit your local library to find out more:

Crawford County

- Benson Memorial Library (<https://bensonlibrary.org/>)
213 North Franklin St., Titusville, PA 16354
- Cambridge Springs Public Library (<https://cambridge.ccfls.org/>)
158 McClellan St., Cambridge Springs, PA 16403
- Cochranon Area Public Library (<https://cochranton.ccfls.org/>)
107 W. Pine St., P.O. Box 296, Cochranon, PA 16314
- Linesville Community Public Library (<https://linesville.ccfls.org/>)
111 Penn St., Linesville, PA 16424
- Margaret Shontz Memorial Library (<https://shontz.ccfls.org/>)
145 S. 2nd St., P.O. Box 5117, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316
- Meadville Public Library (<https://meadvillelibrary.org/>)
848 N. Main St., Meadville, PA 16335
- Saegertown Area Library (<https://saegertown.ccfls.org/>)
325 Broad St. P.O. Box 871, Saegertown, PA 16433
- Springboro Public Library (<https://springboro.ccfls.org/>)
110 S. Main St., Springboro, PA 16435
- Stone Memorial Library (<https://stone.ccfls.org/>)
1101 Main St., Conneautville, PA 16406

Erie County

- Albion Area Public Library (<http://albionarealibrary.org/>)
111 E. Pearl St., Albion, PA 16401
- Corry Public Library (<http://corrylibrary.org/>)
117 W. Washington St., Corry, PA 16407
- Erie County Public Library (<https://erielibrary.org/>)
160 E. Front St., Erie, PA 16507
Includes Edinboro, Iroquois, Lincoln, and Millcreek branches as well as bookmobile
- McCord Memorial Library (<https://mccordlibrary.org/>)
32 W. Main St., North East, PA 16428
- Rice Avenue Community Public Library (www.riceavenuelibrary.org)
705 Rice Ave., Girard, PA 16417
- Union City Public Library (<http://www.ucpl.org/>)
2 Stranahan St., Union City, PA 16438
- Waterford Public Library (www.waterfordlibrary.org)
24 S. Park Row, Waterford, PA 16441

This year, Marley Dias, founder of #1000BlackGirlBooks, author and executive producer, is taking on a new role as honorary chair of Library Card Sign-Up Month. In her new role, Dias will promote the value of libraries and encourage everyone to get their very own library card.

– More –

Since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month has been held each September to mark the beginning of the school year. During the month, the ALA and libraries work together in a national effort to ensure every child signs up for their own library card.

For more information about Library Card Sign-up month or the Erie-Crawford Library District, contact District Consultant Jessica Church at DistrictConsultant@eriecountypa.gov or 814-451-6920. For more information on how local libraries empower their communities and to sign up for a library card, please contact the public library nearest you from the list above.

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