



Library Advisory Board Meeting Monday, February 26, 2024 Via zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83819780963?pwd=OFkraXEyamdRL2tEbFNXcDJZOWswZz09>

MINUTES

Members Present: Adam Groves, Quyen Aoh, Mari Howells, Mohamed Almorsy

Members Absent: Annie Rosenthal, Kara Murphy

Others Present: John Euliano, Jessica Church, Deana Cooper, Jessica Stefano, Patrick Miller, A. J. Rao, Freda Tepfer, Alyssa Johnson, Brian G, Matthew Yaw

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President at 12:01.

2. Approval of Minutes – December 21, 2023, January 22, 2024

Mari motioned to approve the December minutes, Adam second. Motion passed.

Adam motioned to approve January minutes, Mari second. Motion passed.

3. Public Comment (Limit to 15 Minutes)

Freda Tepfer gave comment- views board as represented public and asked that any library initiative be given public review. She referred to Project Neptwne. She expressed concerns of Gannon project moving forward and talk of retractable shelving a concern. Style of shelving should not be in public circulation area. Asked if District 3 had a board representative. Commented on Director replacement.

Quyen- responded Freda's questions regarding board vacancies.

4. Library Reports

a. Staff Report- Jessica Stefano

Jessica gave a presentation on the department changes, challenges and new approaches to the Youth Services Department and floor space. She reviewed upcoming programs including Summer Reading, Step Out and Read (SOAR) "Best Pet Election" and Kid Librarian Program – Kid Curated Displays- Launch April 1.

Adam commented on the positive changes happening in the department. Family happy to see Youth Services Librarians back at Blasco.

b. Report of the Director- John Euliano

Report provided in agenda. John reviewed report with board.

John informed board that he asked each department to submit a report highlighting events happening at each location. He touched on a few included in report.

Mari informed Board that Erie County Community College may not have classes in the afternoon or at all on the day of the eclipse. Mari asked whether the library plans to be open.

John informed board that there are discussions occurring as to whether the County will keep certain departments open. At this time, there is no final decision announced.

Mari- any plan for eclipse glasses?

John- library patrons will use their library card to receive one pair of glasses per card while supplies last. Waiting for confirmation from school districts before we distribute. All public school students will receive glasses at school.

Quyen asked John for feedback regarding the Board's role in Director's search. John informed board that he did speak with administration and is awaiting feedback. He will reach out again as we get closer to reviewing candidates.

Adam appreciates the detailed reports in the agenda. Did ask for statistics regarding the branches. Wondering what they look like with increase in Youth Service programming.

Adam inquired about Branch Manager Positions and whether they were converted to other library positions. John explained how the two remaining Branch Managers each oversee two branches as opposed to just one. The remaining vacant positions will not be backfilled.

c. Statistical and Other Reports- John Euliano

Statistics provided in agenda. John reviewed statistics from January.

d. Review of Financial Report- Deana Cooper

No financial reports available due to year end reporting.

Review of District Consultant

Provided in agenda.

All libraries are working on their annual reports to the State. This are statistical, collection, personnel and financial figures reported to the state annually. Reports are due to Jessica for review on 3/15/24.

5. Board and Committee Reports

a. Report of County Council Liaison- Councilman Horton

No report.

b. Report of ERLF- Patrick Miller

Foundation Board had library tour of Youth Services.

More meetings scheduled Millcreek location. Nothing official to announce at this time.

The Foundation is planning some upgrades at the Edinboro Branch using some funds restricted to that specific location. Had a walkthrough of space and plan to move forward with some of the projects. Some projects include adding a window into the community room and expanding the children's space.

On April 17, the Foundation will hold its first large fundraiser, "Are You Smarter than a Librarian?" Team sign ups begin tomorrow. Let Patrick know if you are interested.

c. Report of Friends of the Library- Kathleen Horan

Successful book sale and great attendance in February. Appreciate anyone who attended the sale. Next sale is titled, "Swing into Spring" on May 9.

Kathleen promoted the summer sale as well.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Library Advisory Board Bylaws

Bylaws were reviewed and revised at February Board work session. Adam made a motion to approve the bylaws, Mohamed seconded. Motion passed. Bylaws approved for 2024.

7. New Business

a. Display Policy

A revised Internal Display Policy was presented to the Board. The revisions added ALA Bill of Rights language along with a request for reconsideration process for the public. Both Mari and Adam praised revisions. Adam outlined why he is voting to approve the policy.

One consideration- addition to request for reconsideration toolkit. Language that requests all reconsiderations including staff, board members, elected officials and administration must use the same process as the public. Adam will email John the quoted language.

He is asking if committee would consider adding clause to policy.

Quyen asked questions regarding for policy.

Mohamed had questions regarding censorship resolution revolving around materials and not displays. He also asked for further discussion regarding the 90-day decision regardless of how many subsequent requests are made.

Jessica responded with the why 90-day language was added and how she came about the 90 clause. Language helps prepare for future issues based on trends across the country.

Quyen asked what questions are on the reconsideration form? John read form to board.

Mohamed's concern is accessibility of forms. Not everyone uses online format.

Mohamed made motion to discuss policy further and vote at next meeting. No second.

Adam made motion to approve policy. Mari second. Motion passed 3 to 1.

8. Adjournment

Quyen motioned to adjourn. 1:00p.

9. Appendix

a. [Announcements](#) – **Next Board meeting will be Monday, March 18at noon - via zoom.**