

**Subject:** Minutes from the UDPL Board Meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022

**Attendance:** Library Director Cheri Fiory (via Zoom), President Janine Buesgen, Treasurer Wendy Rader, Secretary Andrea Merrick and members Gary Fisher, , Cathy Murphy, Suanne Strauss and Joan Ryder Ludwig were all present.

The meeting was conducted in person at the Library.

President Buesgen called the regularly scheduled board meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

**Welcome**

President Buesgen welcomed all in attendance.

One member of the public was present, Marie Cassel.

**Consent Agenda Items:**

There being no objection, the Board moved, seconded, and approved the following items:

- (a) Minutes of the March 16, 2022 meeting**
- (b) Financial Reports for March and April 2022**
- (c) Librarian’s Reports for March and April 2022**

A couple of comments/questions were raised about tracking the usage of meeting rooms against total capacity and how often people are turned away. The librarian’s report was complimented for the excellent graphics that have been incorporated.

The consent agenda was unanimously accepted.

Public comment: There was no public comment.

**Discussion items:**

**a) 2022 Goals/Project Timeline**

Director Fiory emailed a timeline to members to review as she discussed her reports. She noted that: 1) the new gift shop is doing well and has raised \$1,500.00 in April including books sold (in the shop and to an external vendor) and gift items. YTD sales are \$4,500.00. Hardback books are now \$2, and paperbacks are \$1. She thanked all the volunteers supporting this endeavor. 2) The nursing mothers’ room is now open. 3) The meeting rooms are now open and are being used by the township and library for programs and some partner groups, but they have not been open more broadly to the public. 4) Some renovations to the Auditorium are starting; new ceiling lighting is being considered. 5) Whether to open an inside desk for picking up books on hold is under consideration. The outside window is working well. 6) Computer usage is down, but that is expected. 7) There are no plans in the works for a café, but Director Fiory would like to see coffee/beverages available.

Community Engagement- There are a host of programs in the works including an Asian/American celebration on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The police are also sponsoring a program, Bridging

the Gap about race in policing. Other programs include Celebrate Summer which includes the concert series. Donors/sponsors are being solicited. Two author events are scheduled: Jennifer Haigh, “Mercy Street” on June 16<sup>th</sup> and Katy Tur, “Rough Draft” on July 11<sup>th</sup>. A Lifelong Learning series in the Fall covering 6 weeks and 10 classes.

Fundraising: The April 29<sup>th</sup> Thank You event was attended by about 190 people and was a huge success. \$1.24M was raised during the capital campaign.

Infrastructure: The report to the State is almost complete and will be submitted. Cathy Brandon is retiring which will create a vacancy. She is the cataloguer, which is a unique role.

Marketing: The Township is redesigning its website which will impact the Library so there will be opportunity to revamp the Library’s site, too.

Building Updates: McLINC has moved into its space as of 5/18/22. There is discussion underway about opening Entrance B to the public, but some updates may need to be done.

Misc.: Matthew Quick, the author of Silver Lining Playbook, reached out to the Library about his upcoming book inspired by his last visit to the Ambler Theatre. It is coming out in November 2022.

Budget: As usual, the meeting will be in November and Director Fiory will likely need to have a draft budget to the BOC in August. An open question relates to the level of services needed to operate the building.

#### **b) Friends Update**

Cathy Murphy advised that Bryan Gillespie is the treasurer and has been reviewing and revising the reports. The jewelry sale is Oct. 15 and Jo Ann Hunt is busy collecting jewelry and organizing the event. The Friends has a new organizational structure that includes committees (Such as Membership and Civic Engagement) that will report in at the monthly board meetings. Sonny Gross has resigned from the Board so there is an opening. The Board is actively seeking new potential candidates. The Friends have also are considering funding the Author Series.

#### **c) Capital Campaign Update**

Director Fiory had nothing to report outside of what she discussed above in her 2022 Goals/ Project TimeLine comments.

#### **Action Items:**

a) There were no new points raised but a question was voiced about whether the Teen Advisory Council should be resurrected. Director Fiory advised that the timing is not conducive to resuming this at the moment given the demands on staff, particularly serving as the de facto building manager at 520.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The next Library Board meeting will be on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, at 6:30 PM. At that time elections of officers will occur.

Respectfully submitted by,

*Andrea Merrick*

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