

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL 22, 2025

TCPL Board Members Present: Kathy Weinberg, President; Lis Chabot, Darrell Long, Nina Scholtz, S. Clausen

Trustees Excused: Shelly Wong, Christina Brewington, Mimi Townsend

Also Present: Susan Currie, Interim Director; Tonya VanCamp, Business Manager; Kerry Barnes, TCPL Foundation Executive Director; Mary McKeon, Administrative Manager; Judd Karlman, AS Dept. Head; K. Savage, YS Dept. Head; Brian Sasser, Communications Manager; Rich John, County Legislator;

With a quorum, the meeting convened at 4:03 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 25-22

A **MOTION** was made by N. Scholtz and seconded by L. Chabot to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following attended the meeting and addressed the board:

Alison True
Shelby Buche

CONSENT AGENDA

THE BOARD RATIFIESTHE RECLASSIFICATION OF THE BUSINESS MANAGER TO A 40 HOUR PER WEEK EXEMPT POSITION

APPROVAL OF LIBRARY STAFF WHO HAVE BEEN TERMINATED, REISGNERD AND RETIRED SINC E 2023 DOC 25-23

APPROVAL OF MARCH 25, 2025 MINUTES DOC 25-24

ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION DOC 25-25

A **MOTION** was made by D. Long and seconded by N. Scholtz to approve the consent agenda. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

I, Treasurer, Lisabeth Chabot, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed payroll #7 dated 4/3/25 and #8 dated 4/17/25 totaling \$130,607.40. I have reviewed all vouchers presented for payment, and that all disbursements are within the approved operating

budget of the library and therefore recommend that the Board of Trustees approve for payment April 2025 bills in the amount of \$275,304.46 as listed in Abstracts #10, #11 and #12.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I began as Interim Library Director on April 1, 2025, and have been holding one on one meetings with staff to learn about their jobs, hear what they think is going well and what suggestions they have. I also have established weekly meetings with the Department heads, Communications Manager and Business Manager. I invited the Director of County Facilities, Arel LeMaro, and Dana Dexter along with the county electrician to look at the electricity of the front lobby of the library, as well as the outside of the library for needed repairs, updates, and painting. I have attended a meeting of the FLLS Directors, and we are working closely with FLLS on rebuilding collections and processes. Because we will be welcoming a number of new members of the Board of Trustees, we are working to provide a Trustee orientation and training. The Friends of the Tompkins County Public Library spring sale is underway and librarians from TCPL have selected a great number of classics and other materials for the TCPL collection. We are always grateful for the Friends and the TCPL Foundation support.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

K. Weinberg started a discussion about the bylaws noting the issue of thirteen or fifteen trustees for the board. R. John interjected that it is their decision of how many trustees recruitment can be done and fifteen is doable, there is tremendous support of the library and fifteen is sustainable.

LIAISON REPORTS

County- R. John reminded the trustees speaking about trustee candidates should take place in Executive Session.

Foundation – The Foundation held its third Silent Reading Party (SRP) on Sunday, April 6th at Liquid State Brewing. It was the most successful SRP we've had yet, and we are pleased to report that it netted almost \$2,000 with Liquid State donating the cost of the event space. The Friends of TCPL donated a \$25 book sale gift certificate which was immensely popular and drove our raffle drawing donations to the highest amount yet. Many people have attended multiple SRPs, and several attendees spoke of how useful the event has been in helping them return to recreational reading. The Foundation's Events Committee is planning at least two more SRPs in 2025. The Foundation was also proud to fund "Undoing Drugs" author Maia Szalavitz's visit on April 19th. It was a good-sized crowd considering the holiday weekend and protests occurring simultaneously on the Commons. A senior public health faculty member with Cornell's Brooks Public Policy School attended, as well as an associate professor in Health Sciences and Public Health from Ithaca College. The Foundation's audit and 990 have been completed, approved, and submitted.

Friends – The booksale is eleven days away starting May 3rd. Library day is tomorrow! Come by the Friends of the Library, 509 Esty St. for a lawn sign.

MOTION to adjourn meeting by D. Long and seconded by J. Moore at 5:14 p.m. Carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A **MOTION** was made by N. Scholtz and seconded by S. Clausen to move into Executive Session at 4:46pm . Approved unanimously.

A **MOTION** was made by S. Clausen and seconded by L. Chabot to adjourn Executive Session at 5:50pm. Approved unanimously.

The Board then voted unanimously to approve the amended TCPL bylaws to have a 15-member Board of Trustees. The Board then voted unanimously to approve the seven new Trustees presented by TC Legislative Liaison, Rich John. A motion was made by Darrell Long to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lis Chabot and unanimously approved.

Minutes by Mary McKeon
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by
Secretary