

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST 22, 2023

TCPL Board Members Present: Martha Hardesty, President; Blixly Taetzsch, Don Trotter, Shelley Wong, Jason Moore, Liam Murphy, Nina Scholtz, Marli Stahler, Lis Chabot

Board Members excused: Liam Murphy, Melisa Sidle, Jamila Simon

Also Present: Leslie Tabor, Director; Mary McKeon, Administrative Manager; Michelle Benjamin, Business Manager; Kerry Barnes; TCPL Foundation Director; Amanda Champion, County Legislator

With a quorum, meeting convened at 4:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 23-56

A **MOTION** was made by J. Moore and seconded by D. Trotter to approve the agenda with the deletion of the Executive Session. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF JULY 22, 2023, MINUTES DOC 23-57

A **MOTION** was made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by D. Trotter to approve the minutes with a minor change. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

I, Treasurer, Blixly Taetzsch, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed payroll #16 dated 8/10/23 and #17 dated 8/24/23 totaling \$112,060.97. 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 August 2023 bills in the amount of \$192,270.20 as listed in Abstracts #23, #24 and #25.

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED AUGUST 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENTS DOC 23-58

Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF COLLECTION AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN & REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION DOC 23-59

Approved unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Tabor reminded everyone of the library closure for HVAC construction is September 15th through October 2nd planned opening October 3rd. The HVAC project will make the library facility greener and more efficient by updating controls, chillers, boilers, air handlers, and ventilation fans. These changes will help reduce the library's carbon footprint and support Tompkins County's green goals for a sustainable future. During the closure, TCPL staff will have the opportunity for robust professional development offsite. Topics covered will include

sexual harassment prevention, programming philosophy, and identifying community needs, in addition to connecting with libraries at Ithaca College and Cornell University.

Due dates will be adjusted automatically, and book drops will remain open for returns. Patrons are encouraged to visit member libraries throughout Tompkins County and the Finger Lakes Library System. Patrons are directed to our digital resources, including Libby (ebooks and audiobooks), Hoopla (comics, ebooks, audiobooks, music and more), and Kanopy (movie streaming) available 24/7. Fall Sundays have been adjusted for the closure and will run from October 8 through December 3.

A big thank you to the friends of the library for the additional funding for collections, furniture for circulation and staff development.

LIAISON REPORTS

County – A. Champion began with her bio, then gave an in-depth overview of the role of the legislators. The library is governed by county charter, Champion sees the county and library as a partnership, county provides the funding and library provides staff and services. Champion ended stating, “I’m here to support the library.”

Foundation – Kerry Barnes was happy to represent the Foundation along with Leslie Tabor, Martha Hardesty, Michelle Benjamin, and Sarah Glogowski at Senator Lea Webb’s Ithaca office ribbon cutting. Senator Webb, along with Assemblywoman Kelles, awarded TCPL bullet aid funding which is being used for staff development activities. It was wonderful to see TCPL recognized as an important entity by the Senator’s office.

The Summer appeal is going well, with larger average gifts than expected. The Foundation is preparing for its annual Library Leaders Circle donor recognition event in September at Argos Warehouse. Barnes has been surprised and pleased by the quantity of new (and major) donors who will be attending the event.

Friends – D. Trotter mentioned there is an additional storage container in the parking lot to accommodate the increase in donations. Donations will be accepted until September 16th. The sale starts October 7th!

A **MOTION** was made by D. Trotter and seconded by S. Wong to adjourn the meeting at 5:08PM. Approved unanimously.

Recorded by Mary McKeon
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by Melisa Sidle
Secretary