

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JANUARY 28, 2020

TCPL Board Members Present: Luca Maurer, President; Don Trotter, Thompson Terry, Blix  
Taetzsch, Martha Hardesty, Jamie Loehr, Nina Scholtz, Shelley Wong, Jason Moore, Anthony  
Martinez

Board Members Excused: Nina Miller, Liam Murphy, Ingrid Jensen

Also Present: Annette Birdsall, Library Director; Michelle Benjamin, Business Manager; Mary  
McKeon, Administrative Manager; Suzanne Smith Jablonski, Foundation Executive Director.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

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

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 20-01

A **MOTION** was made by T. Terry and seconded by B. Taetzsch to approve the agenda.  
Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 17, 2019 DRAFT MINUTES DOC 20-02

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

APPROVAL OF STRATEGIC PLAN DOC 20-03

Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RECOMMENDED 2020 BUDGET DOC 20-04

Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FOUNDATION BOARD LIAISON

Blix reported that the nominating committee approved a Liaison to the Foundation Board.  
Tompkins County Public Library Foundation Communication Liaison Charge is as follows:

- The liaison to the Tompkins County Public Library Foundation (Foundation) Board will serve as a non-voting attendee to the Foundation Board as appointed by the Vice President of the Tompkins County Public Library (TCPL) Trustees.
- The liaison will represent the TCPL Trustees at the Foundation Board meetings (currently held on the first Monday of the month at 3:30 p.m.), and provide a brief report to the TCPL Board's monthly meeting (currently held on the last Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m.).
- In the event the liaison cannot attend a Foundation Board meeting, they may send another TCPL Trustee in their stead. The liaison may represent the Library Director if the Director (also non-voting) is unable to attend the monthly meeting.

Approved unanimously.

#### APPROVAL OF BILLS

I, Treasurer, Thompson Terry, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed payrolls #1 dated 1/2/20, #2 dated 1/16/20 totaling \$116,859.78. 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 January 2020 bills in the amount of \$93,407.85 as listed in Abstracts #1, #2 and #3.

#### DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Birdsall discussed the Library's support for the County's new Strength and Diversity award, and gave thanks to the County for paying our annual Chamber of Commerce membership. She explained the need for President, Luca Maurer to convene the art acquisition committee to consider the possible donation of a J.O. Mahoney painting from the Unitarian church (presented by Nathan Fawcett). M. Hardesty and A. Martinez accepted the appointment to the committee and Director Birdsall agreed to invite Carol Kammen to join. Director Birdsall reported that two contract negotiation sessions each have been held for the PSA and SSA. She believes all proposals have been brought forth, and negotiations will continue in good faith. She also outlined her plan to discontinue the marketing contract with the Foundation in order to ensure fair compensation for library work being done. The position of public relations and marketing coordinator will be filled part-time, and the Foundation is working closely with the Library to facilitate this transition.

#### LIAISON REPORTS

Friends – D. Trotter had little to report, donations still being accepted for the Spring Sale.

#### FOUNDATION REPORT

Smith Jablonski reported the Foundation was reexamining staffing and workflow in light of the change in the marketing contract. She mentioned her memberships on the Leadership Tompkins, Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Commerce Foundation boards, and pledged to report more from these groups, especially updates related to the planned Green Street conference

center. Smith Jablonski highlighted upcoming activities, including February is Library Lovers Month, which is a chance to promote the "Page Turners" recurring giving program, and "20 Years on Green Street" supporter recognition opportunity.

A **MOTION** was made by M. Hardesty and seconded by J. Loehr to adjourn at 4:37 PM.  
Approved unanimously.

Recorded by Mary McKeon  
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by Blixxy Taetzsch  
Secretary