

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NOVEMBER 15, 2022

TCPL Board Members Present: Martha Hardesty, President; Ingrid Jensen, Blixxy Taetzsch, Don Trotter, Nina Scholtz, Jason Moore, Melisa Sidle, Liam Murphy, Shelley Wong, Nina Miller, Marli Stahler

Board members excused: LaWanda Cook

Also Present: Teresa Vadakin, Interim Director; Michelle Benjamin, Business Manager; Mary McKeon, Administrative Manager; Kerry Barnes; TCPL Foundation Executive Director, Jennifer Schlossberg; Circulation Dept. Head, Amanda Champion, County Liaison,

Staff: Cady Fontana, Cassie Shortle, Asia Bonacci, Kate DeVoe, Meghan Molloy

With a quorum, meeting convened at 4:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 22-89

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

STAFF PRESENTATION by Kate DeVoe, Cassie Shortle, Asia Bonacci, Cady Fontana, Meghan Molloy

C. Shortle read a proclamation thanking Teresa Vadakin and staff owe Teresa a debt of gratitude for her service, and that the positive impacts she has made in the Director role will be felt for decades. We thank you and we love you, Teresa!

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 DRAFT MINUTES DOC 22-81

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

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

I, Treasurer, Blixxy Taetzsch, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that I have reviewed payroll #22 dated 11/3/22 and #23 dated 11/17/22 totaling \$104,921.60. 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 November 2022 bills in the amount of \$322,036.60 as listed in Abstracts #32, #33 and #34.

APPROVAL OF CODE OF CONDUCT DOC 22-93

Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RECLASSIFICATION OF LIBRARIAN I TO LIBRARIAN II

Approved unanimously.

NOMINATING REPORT

Jensen spoke on behalf of the nominating committee

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS; RATIFY OCTOBER BILLS,  
APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS DOC 22-91,  
APPROVAL OF LOST OR DAMAGED MATERIALS POLICY DOC 22-92, APPROVAL OF  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES BYLAWS DOC 22-94

A MOTION was made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by I. Jensen to approve the consent agenda. Approved unanimously.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR REPORT

Vadakin reported that this month was comprised of finding out the good news about the budget, getting ready for the transition to a new director, and some Halloween weekend craziness. She also mentioned TCPL's representation at NYLA with 4 library staff members giving presentations.

Vadakin reflected on her year as Acting Director and thanked the board for their support and guidance throughout the year. She also discussed why TCPL is such a remarkable library, the staff and a community that loves the library. She mentioned that she looks forward to working with the library patrons again.

LIAISON REPORTS

County - A. Champion thanked Teresa for her service as Assistant Director, she remarked how the trustees and legislators appreciate her. Champion thanked Don Trotter for the card for Henry Granison. January 24, there is a special election for District 3 seat, Susan Currie and two other Democrats will run.

Foundation – The Foundation is well into Year-End appeal work. K. Barnes thanks those trustees helping us by writing notes to donors. We'll be kicking off our Year-End campaign on Giving Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Another way to help is to forward our messages to people in your network or circle who may be interested in supporting the library, either via email or social media.

I'm proud to announce that the Foundation's Vice-President, Laura Larson, has been awarded "Philanthropist of the Year, Individual" by the Finger Lakes chapter of AFP (Association of Fundraising Professionals.) Laura will be honored at the National Philanthropy Day celebration this Friday, with several members of the Foundation board in attendance.

We hope you'll join us for a joint "non-meeting" on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm in the BorgWarner meeting room here at the Library. I know we've been discussing resuming joint

meetings of our boards and we felt a purely social get-together was a good way to start. Please RSVP to Kerry either at [kbarnes@tcplfoundation.org](mailto:kbarnes@tcplfoundation.org) or 607-275-1532 as soon as possible.”

Friends – Trotter reported the numbers of the sale. At the beginning of the sale, we had 219,263 items (books, CDs, DVDs, etc.) available for sale (for comparison, in 2020 TCPL had about 227,500 such items in its collection). We sold 179,000 items, or 82% which is a typical percentage for us. These sales generated \$246,000 in revenue, slightly over our budgeted number. We gave 2729 items away to local libraries and 2462 to local non-profits (schools, etc.) for free. customers: 11,265 people got counted thru the door during the sale.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A **MOTION** was made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by M. Sidle to adjourn to Executive Session at 4:37 p.m. Assistant Director Teresa Vadakin was invited to join. The trustees discussed the SSA contract with Vadakin and the trustee members of the negotiating team. The trustees then thanked Vadakin for her outstanding leadership and service as interim director/assistant director of the library and Vadakin was excused at 4:50 p.m. The trustees then discussed the forthcoming arrival of the new director. There being no further business, a **MOTION** was made by L. Murphy and seconded by B. Taetzsch to adjourn Executive Session at 5:07 p.m. Approved unanimously.

A **MOTION** was then made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by L. Murphy to ratify the Management Confidential and policy and compensation as presented and discussed at the October board meeting. Approved unanimously.

A **MOTION** was then made by B. Taetzsch and seconded by N. Scholtz to ratify the SSA contract as presented. Approved unanimously.

There being no further business for the public session, a **MOTION** was made by I. Jensen and seconded by J. Moore to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m. Approved unanimously.

Recorded by Mary McKeon  
Administrative Manager

Endorsed by Melisa Sidle  
Secretary