

TOMPKINS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 27, 2015

TCPL Board Members Present: Bruce Ryan; President, Molly Salky, Kenneth McClane, Tim Scott, Cindy Nicholson, Martha Walker, Rochelle Proujansky, Helena Maria Viramontes, Peter McCracken, Jack Clark, Risa Mish

Board Members Excused: Kris Altucher

Also present: Also Present: Michael Lane, Tompkins County Legislative Liaison to the Board of Trustees; Susan Currie, Library director; Carrie Wheeler-Carmenatty, public programming and community outreach; Suzanne Smith Jablonski, Library Foundation director; Liz Hudson, Library Foundation assistant director, and Michelle Benjamin, Library business manager

Meeting convened at 4:02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

With a quorum now present the meeting continued to the order of business.

President Ryan explained that at the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the agenda had been amended in order to create more room for discussion of larger topics. Times were also added to agenda items to keep meeting conversations focused but will not be strictly monitored.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA DOC 15-01

A **MOTION** was made by K. McClane and seconded by R. Proujansky to approve the agenda. Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DECMEBER 16, 2014 DRAFT MINUTES DOC 15-02

A **MOTION** was made by R. Proujansky seconded by K. McClane to approve the minutes. Approved unanimously.

RATIFY THE DECEMBER BILLS Previously approved on December 22, 2014 by the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee presented in writing, according to the Board by-laws, the approval of the December 22, 2014 Finance & Personnel Committee. "I, Treasurer, Cynthia Nicholson, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that 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 payment of December 2014 bills in the amount of \$257,106.66 as listed in Abstracts #36, #37 and #38.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

I, Treasurer, Cynthia AB Nicholson, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that 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 December Year End 2014 bills in the amount of \$543,842.46 as listed in Abstract #39.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

I, Treasurer, Cynthia AB Nicholson, in keeping with New York State Education Law, certify that 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 2015 bills in the amount of \$135,645.13 as listed in Abstracts #1, #2 and #3.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET DOC 15-03

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP DOC 15-04

DIRECTORS REPORT

Director S. Currie advised that information would be distributed to Trustees in the coming weeks in order to establish regular meeting dates for committees. The Library Services and Policy and Community Relations and Outreach committees will likely need to meet monthly during 2015 to tackle an increased workload.

Currie reported on a meeting at The History Center in Tompkins County attended by herself, M. Lane, Chair of the County Legislature, County Administrator J. Mareane, History Center Interim Director Jean Currie and Incoming Director Rod Howe to formally discuss the needs of The History Center and possible collaborations between TCPL and that organization. Space needs were discussed and it was determined that the space vacated by FLLS is not adequate, as it does not meet the square footage required by The History Center—they need 12,000 to 14,00 square-feet and the FLLS space is roughly 6,400 square-feet.

Currie also reported on a meeting hosted by the Downtown Ithaca Alliance to discuss parking in the downtown area. Currie and Carrie Wheeler-Carmenatty attended the meeting on behalf of the Library and heard from City of Ithaca Parking Manager Frank Nagy about plans to make parking management more efficient.

The discussion touched on the lack of free parking for visitors to downtown, City plans to implement a pay-by-phone feature, and plans to expand paid parking throughout the city.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Ryan drew attention to DOC 15-05 which was created to reflect, in writing, the process used by the board to evaluate the annual performance of the Library Director.

Ryan also introduced a proposal for better aligning the Library and the Library Foundation. The document, created by S. Currie and S Smith Jablonski, will be voted on in the coming weeks by the Foundation Board of Directors and discussed further during the Board of Trustee's February meeting.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

S. Smith Jablonski provided a PowerPoint overview of the Foundation's 2015 activity as it relates to fundraising and the 21st Century Library Campaign and provided an overview of anticipated issues and challenges.

STRATEGY DISCUSSION

Ryan introduced DOC 1506 which provided an overview of the key issues demanding Board of Trustee attention in 2015: sustainable funding and fundraising, continued community engagement, opportunities to grow/evolve culture at TCPL.

LIAISON REPORTS

Friends – J. Clark reported that the Friends are still receiving many donations and that a leak at the Book Sale site has been repaired.

County Liaison—M. Lane reported that the County Legislature held its reorganizational meeting. He will continue to serve as chair of the legislature. Jim Dennis will serve as vice-chair. The Library will continue to report to the Legislature's Government Operations Committee, which will be chaired by Dan Klein in 2015.

Lane also confirmed that the Legislature reappointed R. Proujansky, M. Salky and K. Altucher to the Library's Board of Trustees.


OTHER REPORTS

R. Proujansky announced that the Nominating Committee is seeking names for possible board members. There are currently three vacancies on the board, and another three positions will be vacated at the conclusion of 2015.


QUESTIONS ABOUT WRITTEN REPORTS

None

MOTION to adjourn meeting by M. Walker and seconded by K. McClane at 5:24 p.m. Carried unanimously.



Recorded by Carrie Wheeler-Carmenatty
Public Programming & Community Outreach



Endorsed by Peter McCracken
Secretary