

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the  
ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD**

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**THURSDAY, March 18, 2016  
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Joe Mineo called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mary Frances Baugh, Jackie Breakstone, Dr. William Garvey, Kathleen Keys, Elspeth Koehle, Joe Mineo, Diane Papesch, Trevor Pearson, Mary Scutella.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Library: Mary Rennie, Executive Director; Erin Wincek, Blasco Coordinator; Patrice Berchtold, Administrative Officer II. Marion Gallivan, Friends of the Library.

Joe Mineo introduced Trevor Pearson who is replacing Chris Matheis as Kyle Foust's District 5 representative. Joe also welcomed back Mary Rennie!

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Trevor Pearson made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 18, 2016. Jackie Breakstone seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS:** None.

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL LIAISON (Ed DiMattio):** None.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY UPDATE (Marion Gallivan):**

Marion stated that the Friends will hold another book collection on April 16<sup>th</sup> from 10-2. The Great American book sale will be the week of June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (Mary Rennie):**

The only thing to report is that we are looking at the ending balances from 2015 to see how much money we had left that didn't get spent due to the state budget impasse. Normally we cannot spend any left over money from a previous year, however, due to the budget impasse, we have about \$250,000 left from 2015 which we are hoping to be able to spend. We are preparing a list of some projects for this money. We will be getting a new integrated library system which will cost extra money. We are hoping to approach County Council next month about spending this money.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Mary Rennie):**

Our strategic plan is moving forward and was presented to County Council on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. All of our branch locations will be expanding hours beginning on April 11, 2016. All of the branches will have the same hours which are Monday and Tuesdays from 9:00-8:00 and Wednesday through Saturday from 9-5. The expansion of hours will have a great community impact and we are working with the County Administrative team on a big roll out. We will be having activities at all of the branches that week. We partnered with WQLN on a Dr. Seuss day and we had about 2,000 attendees. This past Friday night we partnered with the downtown YMCA for a concert in the Hirt Auditorium. The group I'Mpossible played and it was a great event. We put together a local music project where we collected local music CD's to lend from at the Library. We are currently hiring a Circulation Manager and also an Outreach Manger.

The positive press about the library keeps increasing. Partly because of all of the new additional programming we are doing, which is a tribute to Erin! The staff are feeling the excitement and the culture is changing.

The end of next month is the District Library Center meeting. We received a questionnaire from the Governor's Office on how libraries can impact the workforce of a community. We sent in a lengthy response back about how all libraries can work together. We will keep you posted on any regional efforts.

**STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Erin Wincek):**

Erin is looking at different statistics to gather and what pieces of our story we want to tell with these statistics. In February we had our largest increase in circulation in three years!

**REPORT OF THE DISTRICT CONSULTANT (Tony Keck) None.**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:** None.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** Your packet is full of newspaper clippings!

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:**

Joe has contacted Doug Smith about Mary Scutella and Elspeth Koehle's first terms ending June 30, 2016.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Trevor asked if anything was being done about providing books to the hospitals? Kathleen Keys will look into Abby's fund/project which is a project that gives books to hospitals. If that is not an option, the Friends are willing to give him some books.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Strategic Plan: County Council received an update of the strategic plan and we will begin implementation.
- b. Trevor met with Mary for orientation and talked about a speaker series about different topics such as gun violence, suicide, etc. Erin stated that the Health Department may be willing to partner on this also. The county has been talking about a speaker series also.
- c. Dr. Garvey stated that the Jefferson Society is working on a book of all Erie Mayors from 1850 to Rick Filippi. The library played a very valuable part in the research for this project. They were very impressed with the amount of reference materials the library had and how helpful the staff was. Everyone needs to remember that the library is the custodian of local history.
- d. Brian Pardini's driftwood display at the library is exquisite. If you haven't seen it, please stop at the Peninsula Room to see additional pieces.

**The next Advisory Board meeting is April 21, 2016.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.