

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

-----  
**THURSDAY, May 15, 2014  
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Joe Mineo called the meeting to order at 12:01.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jackie Breakstone, Kathleen Keys, Elspeth Koehle, Marilyn Kraus, Joe Mineo, Diane Papesch.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Dennise Beaumont, William Garvey, Mary Scutella.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Library: Mary Rennie, Executive Director; Tony Keck, District Consultant; Joan Duke, Main Library Coordinator; Patrice Berchtold, Executive Assistant.

Friends of the Library: Marcy Bencivenga.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Jackie Breakstone made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 17, 2014. Kathleen Keys 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 (Marcy Bencivenga):** The Friend's annual meeting is Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Board members are welcome to attend. Jude Shingle will speak at this meeting. The annual Great American Book Sale will be held on 6/15 through 6/20/14 at Villa Maria Gym.

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

Mary stated that we are on track so far this year, although we had to reclassify a few items which were coded improperly. The district budget is being re-worked. Because of the county implementing an IT department, some district expenses had to be re-worked since the half-time IT position now does not support the entire district. Equipment maintenance is overspent, but it is for our SIRSI system which gets paid early for the entire year. Our temporary staff line item is also at 67%. We feel that in order to keep the doors open, we need those temporary, per-diem staff.

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

May kicked off the start of a library card initiative which will continue throughout the summer. The Blasco Library hosted "Arthur", on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to get the word out. We are distributing flyers to advertise May as library card initiative month. We will be sending out a press release for the Summer Reading Program, notification of lower fines and the library card initiative all rolled into one! The Opening Doors Exhibit is now open for viewing at Blasco. We hope to do more of this type of exhibits. There will be a reception for the Opening Doors Exhibit on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. The unveiling of the Protzman music collection "Everything Jazz" is scheduled for

June 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a reception/kickoff event which will include live music. The Bookmobile has been off the road and we are using the county van to pick up books and deliver holds to patrons. We have received two estimates and County Administration has asked for a third estimate on the cost of repairs. Mary has made a recommendation for an alternative form of outreach library services in lieu of a traditional bookmobile. We have also surveyed bookmobile users as to what their needs are and most of the users have access to transportation. We are looking at areas who we could partner with for drop-off and pick-up locations. The Millcreek lease is up in a year and we had looked at the old Burlington space. We have since found out that there is no high speed internet access so that location is no longer an option. We will continue to look for other options. We can stay in the current space on a short term lease, but the cost will go up to about \$100,000 starting next year. We are also working on the posting for Ann Randall-Dill's vacant position.

**STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Joan Duke):**

Overall circulation was down 6% for the month of April. The number of programs offered was up 15% and the total number of attendees was up 18% over April, 2013. Facebook likes continue to rise.

**REPORT OF THE DISTRICT CONSULTANT (Tony Keck):**

A copy of the District Agreement is included in the packet which the board needs to approve. This agreement was explained and discussed. This budget is contingent on the state budget, which we are hearing could contain cuts. Mary and Tony attended the District meeting where they found out that the Library Code cannot be re-opened for several years. This code contains language which is limiting how the Library operates and counts collections.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

There were several newspaper articles in your packet.

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Board Member replacements/continuations:**

Joe has contacted Doug Smith and Marilyn Kraus will contact Carol Loll with a suggestion for her replacement. Joe's continuation is on the next Council meeting agenda. We have received a letter from Dennise Beaumont that she has a new job and is not able to continue to serve on the board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Summer Reading Program – Fizz, Boom, Read is this year's theme. Sue Miceli and Lori Metalonis came to speak to the board about this year's Summer Reading Program. Sue talked about what is planned for all age groups and the prizes which will be given out were shown to the board. The teens will register and record their reading minutes online. They need to read 500 minutes and will receive a prize when this goal is reached. They are also then entered for a grand prize of a Kindle Fire. All of the programs and activities for the children will be science based. Sue also talked about August 18<sup>th</sup> being the start of "Kick Off to Kindergarten". This is a chance for kids starting Kindergarten in the fall to come into the library and receive a prize to recognize them or to give them information to register if they have not done so yet. All of the Erie County libraries will participate in this event.

Jackie Breakstone made a motion to approve the District Budget. Marilyn Kraus seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Policy Changes – Copies of revised Policy #718, 761, 793 and 798 were discussed. All of the revisions deal with lower fines, easier access for out-of-state patrons and adding “tablets” to the laptop loan policy. All of these policy changes will go into effect June 1, 2014. Kathleen Keys made a motion to approve the revised policy changes. Diane Papesch seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Joe Mineo will be in Poland and unable to attend the next board meeting.

Reminder the next board meeting is at Lincoln Community Center.

**The next Advisory Board meeting is June 19, 2014 at Lincoln Community Center.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m.