

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

**THURSDAY, April 16, 2015
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jackie Breakstone, Dr. William Garvey, Elspeth Koehle, Joe Mineo, Diane Papesch, Mary Scutella.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mary Frances Baugh, Kathleen Keys, Christine Matheis.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Library: Tony Keck, District Consultant; Erin Wincek, Blasco Coordinator; Patrice Berchtold, Executive Assistant.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Diane Papesch made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 19, 2015. 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: None.

REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (Erin Wincek):

We did not receive the March Financial Report from the Finance. Mary wanted the board to be aware of the expenses at Iroquois from the winter. She may need to ask for a supplemental appropriation for those roof and siding problems.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Erin Wincek):

This week is National Library week and we will be celebrating with balloons, posters pencils and displays. Staff all received an appreciation bag. We also have a display of "staff picks" where staff have made a shelf of their favorite books and things! We have rolled out our new logo and are working on new library cards. Yesterday was national bookmobile day! Interviews for the Youth Services Manager and Teen Librarian are taking place this week and it will be imperative to have the right person in these positions to continue moving forward on the current library initiatives and programming. It is felt that we will need to re-post for both positions, but will consider the current applicants that were interviewed.

We have received the contract from Bostwick Design, which is the firm chosen to develop the conceptual design for the Idea Lab. Judy Dible, Foundation Chair, will sign the contract on 4/27 when she returns to Erie. We will begin scheduling dates for the facilitation and programming phase sometime next week, which will be held in May. The very first meeting will be for key stakeholders, and the Advisory Board will be invited to that.

Mary met with the Director and District Consultant from the Seneca District Center Library which covers Warren, Forest, Elk and Cameron Counties. She is pursuing the concept of a regional library partnership to expand the reach of the Idea Lab. It makes sense, since the problems in many cases are regional in nature,

and so are the resources. Mary is looking to form a work group of librarians to create a program of assessment and a clearinghouse for regional resources. This ideally will take the form of a federated search engine. She will be discussing this idea with others while in Harrisburg.

We are continuing to evaluate options for the Millcreek Branch Library. The PA Breast Cancer Coalition is having a display at Blasco called “67 Women, 67 Counties: facing breast cancer in Pennsylvania”, and there is a kick-off reception at Blasco on May 7th. A speaker series will be held May 11-15th. We are also having a movie series at Blasco the last Sunday of each month. The next movie will be “Lady sings the blues”. The Blasco Library along with Geekerie is hosting Comic Con on May 16th from 9-5. This should be a fun event. The Artist in Residence this year is a writer and she will be doing programs in May and June.

STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Erin Wincek):

It appears we are trending down in book circulation, however, we continue to increase in digital media. Programs were down slightly in March. Computer usage is very hard to judge for March as the software that records usage was down for half of the month.

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT CONSULTANT (Tony Keck)

Governor Wolf has appointed Brian Dawson as the temporary, acting State Librarian. He was director of Oil City Library. The permanent position of State Librarian is posted until May 18th. It is crucial that the next State Librarian has a vision to move Pennsylvania forward. The Governor’s Council is in charge of selecting the next State Librarian. Dave Mitchell and Bob Gallivan are both still on the Governor’s Council. The District Agreement will be ready May 14th at 10:00a.m. and you are welcome to attend. As a trustee, your input is welcome.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES: None

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

There are several newspaper articles to review in your packet.

Mary has brought the community her vision of the second floor Idea Lab and we have generated excitement about what we can do to support our community’s needs.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:

Watch your email for upcoming committees. We should be starting to develop the second floor design phase with Bostwick and your input and attendance at these meetings will be requested.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

The next Advisory Board meeting is May 21, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:29 p.m.