

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

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**THURSDAY, May 18, 2017  
Admiral Room, Blasco Memorial Library**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Diane Papesch called the meeting to order at 11:58 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mary Frances Baugh, Kathleen Keys, Joe Mineo, Diane Papesch, Trevor Pearson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Liz Allen, Daria Devlin, Elspeth Koehle, Mary Scutella.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Library: Mary Rennie, Executive Director; Tony Keck, District Consultant; Patrice Berchtold, Administrative Officer II; Marion Gallivan, Friends of the Library; Marie Lewis, Office Manager; Sheryl Thomas, Blasco Coordinator.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Joe Mineo made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2017 meeting. Trevor Pearson seconded the motion. Minutes were passed by unanimous voice vote.

**HEARING OF CITIZENS:** None.

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

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

The Spring sale was very successful. \$2,700 was made from the sale. Tickets are being sold for the Craig Johnson event to be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>. There were 100 sold so far. The Great American Book Sale is going to be held from June 11 to June 16<sup>th</sup> at the Villa Maria Gymnasium.

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

Mary Rennie stated that everything seems to be on track with the budget. The Finance committee passed the replacement of the Skylight and the replacement of the Sorter at their meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> which put both projects on the County Council agenda and County Council approved both of the projects at their meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Director's salary is on the agenda for the Personnel committee meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> and hopefully it will be passed and it will be placed on the County Council agenda for the June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for a vote.

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

Mary stated that she is retiring June 2<sup>nd</sup>. She said it has been an honor to be Director and is proud of all that we have done. She looks forward to all of the positive changes that will be taking place. She is hopeful that the Administration's choice for Director is ultimately who will be filling the position. The Phase I construction is ahead of schedule and Sheryl is running that project. Phase II will be beginning soon. Mary will be asking County Council to waive the Purchasing Code to allow the Library to use Bostwick Design as the Architect for Phase II. She would like to keep the continuity with both Phases by keeping the same architect. Mary is working on overseeing the construction, the changes in District Services; including bringing in Marcia Stiller as the new District Consultant, getting out an RFP for a new sorter system for Blasco and working on an RFP for new self-checks at Blasco. The new Director will be overseeing the operation of the ideaLAB with Sheryl and some other staff and creating a

Communications plan for the Library. Joe Mineo invited Mary to attend future Advisory Board meetings. Mary informed the Board that Tony will be retiring May 19<sup>th</sup>. She thanked him for his years of service and stated that he will be missed. Diane stated both Mary and Tony will be missed and wished them both well from the Board.

Mary stated that she traveled to Ohio with Erin Wincek, Jim Dible, Sheryl Thomas and Shane Donaldson to tour the Northwestern school district and the Romich's farm. She would like to take some of the ideas and programs that they currently use and see some of those things implemented in Erie and in the ideaLAB. She would like to see the Romich Foundation possibly help out our ideaLAB in some way. Mary stated that Julie Thiess-Baum has been appointed to the Board to replace Joe Mineo. Mary thanked him for his work on the Board.

**STATISTICAL AND OTHER REPORTS (Sheryl Thomas):**

There were 16 Outreach visits that included the Housing Authority locations, the Eastside YMCA and the Erie Reading Council, reaching 78 adults and 236 children. Circulation increased by 14% over April 2016. Hoopla checkouts increased 71% over April and Newsbank usage jumped by 96%. There were 148 total programs and 2,743 program attendees.

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

Tony stated that the District Budget has to be approved by a District Board, which we are and then has to be approved by at least 8 of the Libraries included in the District and then has to be approved by the Commonwealth of Libraries. The District Budget is \$277,605 and is runs from 7/1/17 – 6/30/18. Tony asked for a vote to approve the budget.

Motion by Joe Mineo, seconded by Kathleen Keys to approve the 2017-2018 District Budget. Approval was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Tony stated that expects Marcia Stiller to do a great job as the new District Consultant. He thanked the Board for everything and said he appreciates everything the Board has done. He thanked Mary for all she has done for the Library.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

There was a Board Development committee meeting held with Mary Rennie, Mary Scutella and Diane Papesch. Mary would like to continue to serve on the committee even though she is retiring because she feels it would be beneficial for the Board.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Your packet is full of newspaper clippings from the past month.

**BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND ACTIVITIES:**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There will be a Trustee Workshop in Clarion that Diane will be attending June 9<sup>th</sup> and asked if anyone else would like to attend.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**The next Advisory Board meeting is June 15, 2017.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 12:44 p.m.