

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM  
LORAIN, OHIO**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, February 20, 2025

President McClelland called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. President McClelland asked if any Board members had a conflict with the agenda. No Trustees indicated a conflict with the business for this evening.

**Roll Call** – Ms. McClelland, yes; Ms. Ramirez, yes; Ms. Torres, excused; Mr. Ackerman, yes; Ms. Snipes-Martin, excused; Mr. Byrne, yes, Mr. White, yes

President McClelland requested to move #2025-018 Resolution of Appreciation – Mark Peters, Assistant Branch Manager – North Ridgeville Branch to the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Ackerman moved, Mr. Byrne seconded to approve moving #2025-018 Resolution of Appreciation – Mark Peters, Assistant Branch Manager – North Ridgeville Branch to the beginning of the meeting.

President McClelland read the Resolution of Appreciation for Mark Peters and a few members of the audience shared some comments about Mark Peters. A planter was given to Mark Peters.

Mr. Byrne moved, Ms. Ramirez seconded to approve the Resolution of Appreciation – Mark Peters, Assistant Branch Manager – North Ridgeville Branch.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2025-018: yeas, unanimous**

**#2025-015 Approval of January 20, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Byrne moved, Ms. Ramirez seconded to approve the January 20, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2025-015: yeas, unanimous**

**#2025-016 Approval of January 2025 Fiscal Officer Report**

Ms. Ramirez moved, Mr. White seconded to approve the January 2025 Fiscal Officer Report.

CFO Angney gave an update on the financials to include information on working on the annual report which must be filed with the Auditor of State by the end of February. CFO Angney mentioned action items to include appropriation modification (2025 Annual Appropriation Resolution #2024-084), increase amounts appropriated in the Book Memorial Fund by \$5,000 to appropriate Krieg-Winterton

monies received and restricted to use in LPLS Operations and Programs monies, as well as a designation of public depositories (JP Morgan Chase, Northwest Bank, and First Federal of Lakewood) for the period of February 1, 2025, through January 31, 2030. CFO Angney also mentioned a recent incident of fraudulent checks that were processed through our account. The security controls in place (Positive Pay) resulted in these checks being flagged immediately so that payments could be stopped and prevent a loss of funds. CFO Angney will follow up with the bank to make sure all fraud is reported.

### **Roll Call for Resolution #2025-016: yeas, unanimous**

### **Report of the Director**

Director Diamond-Ortiz shared information about the State Biennium Budget Process for 2025 and there are some concerns about a small group of legislators trying to defund libraries. Director Diamond-Ortiz asked the Trustees to contact our legislators to impress upon them how vital libraries are to the community. Ms. Ramirez shared that she created an email to send to legislators and can share it with the other Trustees.

### **Committee Reports**

Finance, Audit and Properties Committee – Mr. Byrne shared that the committee met on February 13, 2025 and no action was taken during the meeting. Notes from the meeting have been submitted. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14 at the Avon Branch beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Library Services and Personnel Committee – None

Trustee Development and Nominating Committee – None

Friends of the Library – Book sale at Main Library raised \$2,800 and the Columbia Branch will be having a Rummage Sale on March 8. The Avon Branch will also have their book sale on March 8 and the Domonkas Branch will have their book sale March 19 to 22.

Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System – Ms. Ramirez shared that the Foundation is scheduled to meeting on March 17.

### **Audience Participation**

Ms. Anne Godec, North Ridgeville Branch Manager welcomed the Board and shared some updates to include an indoor walking food demo; Mr. Scot Allyn, Librarian, was featured on a panel on Sound of Ideas (NPR/WKSU) with book recommendations; North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce had a featured speaker at their quarterly meeting; new staff in Outreach; conducting interviews for a new Assistant Branch Manager; and Ms. Kelsy DeCoste will be attending the Lorain County Resource Fair at LCCC on March 18, 2025.

**New Business**

**Consent Agenda**

**#2025-017, #2025-019 and #2025-020**

**#2025-017 Approval of Personnel Appointments in January**

APPOINTMENTS								
NAME	POSITION	DATE	PT/FT/TEMP HOURS	GRADE/ STEP	SALARY	DEPT/ BRANCH	NEW HIRE/ CURRENT STAFF	REASON FOR CHANGE
Dennis Cuthbertson	PSP	01/20/2025	PT 29	UI	\$20.50	Columbia	Current Staff	Replaces Antwayne Smith
Zaina Swaidani	Student Library Aide	01/27/2025	PT 15	A	\$10.70	Avon	New Hire	Replaces Alexa Fazi
Jessica Ambrosi- Mickelson	PSA	02/03/2025	PT 29	UH	\$18.82	South	Current Staff	Replaces Liz Torres- Cirino

\*Liz Torres-Cirino resigned their position on 12/20/2024.

\*Antwayne Smith resigned their position on 10/14/2024.

\*Alexa Fazi resigned their position on 11/16/2024.

#2025-019 Resolution to Modify Resolution #2024-084 2025 Permanent Appropriations to increase amounts appropriated for the Book Memorial Fund by \$5,000.

#2025-020 Resolution to Designate JP Morgan Chase, Northwest Bank, and First Federal of Lakewood as public depositories for the period February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2030.

Mr. Ackerman moved, Ms. Ramirez seconded approval of all Consent Items #2025-017, #2025-019 and #2025-020

**Roll Call for Resolutions #2025-017, #2025-019 and #2025-020: yes, unanimous**

#2025-021 Approval to Enter into Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters Related to Compensation of Public Employees.

Mr. Byrne moved, Mr. White seconded to enter into Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters Related to Compensation of Public Employees.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2025-021: yes, unanimous**

Time Entered into Executive Session 5:29 p.m.

Reconvened 6:49 p.m.

#2025-022 Approval of Administrative Salaries

Board approves salary increases for Director Diamond-Ortiz and Chief Fiscal Officer Angney (2.5% and 2.0%, respectively) retroactive to January 1, 2025.

Mr. Ackerman moved, Ms. Ramirez seconded approval of Administrative Salaries.

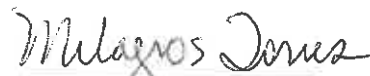
**Roll Call for Resolution #2025-022: yes, unanimous**

Other Agenda Items – None

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
President

  
Secretary