

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM  
LORAIN, OHIO**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, May 16, 2024

President Ms. Snipes-Martin called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. President Ms. Snipes-Martin 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. Snipes-Martin, yes; Dr. Badillo, yes; Ms. McClelland, excused; Ms. Torres, excused; Mr. Ackerman, yes; Ms. Ramirez, yes, Mr. Byrne, yes.

**#2024-038 Approval of April 18, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Ackerman moved, Mr. Byrne seconded to approve the April 18, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2024-038: 3 yeas, 2 abstains**

**#2024-039 Approval of April 2024 Fiscal Officer Report**

Dr. Badillo moved, Mr. Byrne seconded to approve the April 2024 Fiscal Officer Report.

CFO Angney has not received any additional correspondence or questions from the audit team regarding the Libraries 2022-2021 financial audit on May 2. CFO Angney mentioned the upcoming tax budget that must be submitted to the Lorain County Auditor's Office by July 19. CFO Angney will bring the Tax Budget to our June meeting for approval. Fiscal office has completed the quarterly review of outstanding purchase orders and closed those that no longer represent a valid potential expenditure. CFO Angney continues to work with Nora Corrigan, HR Consultant, regarding current operating procedures and roles/responsibilities for Fiscal and HR staff. CFO Angney submitted a quarterly reimbursement request to the Ohio Department of Education requesting reimbursement for expenses incurred under the Accelerated Learning Grant (tutoring program) from January 1 through March 31 totaling \$37,674.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2024-039: yeas, unanimous**

## **Report of the Director**

Director Diamond-Ortiz mentioned providing a tour of the renovated North Ridgeville branch to the Board members immediately following the meeting. Director Diamond-Ortiz shared information on Legislative Day that took place on April 24 where LPLS representatives met with legislators and discussed capital funding for libraries. All local representatives met with LPLS representatives and Representative Gayle Manning subsequently sent an email indicating she will be proposing funding in the next state budget for the Launching Phenomenal Learners tutoring program. Director Diamond-Ortiz also mentioned that the library submitted an application to the Community Foundation of Lorain County for continued funding of the Launching Phenomenal Learners program. She also announced that the library, in partnership with Oberlin Public Library, Lorain Historical Society and the Oberlin Heritage Center, received a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to facilitate a Big Read program centered on Toni Morrison's *Beloved*. Lastly, Director Diamond-Ortiz introduced Michael Ronga, Human Resources Manager.

## **Committee Reports**

Finance, Audit, and Properties Committee – None – No Discussion

Library Services and Personnel Committee – None – No Discussion

Trustee Development and Nominating Committee – None – No Discussion

Friends of the Library – COO Grizzell shared that the Main Branch is currently having a book sale and that North Ridgeville is very excited to have their book sale in October since they have not been able to have one due to renovations.

Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System – None – No Discussion

## **Audience Participation**

Ms. Anne Godec provided a brief update on the North Ridgeville Branch to include the renovations currently wrapping up with the grand opening scheduled for June 1. Ms. Godec also mentioned the upcoming Discover the Ridge event on Saturday, May 18.

**New Business**

#2024-040 Approval of Personnel Appointments in May.

APPOINTMENTS								
NAME	POSITION	DATE	PT/FT/TEMP	GRADE STEP	SALARY	HOURS	DEPT/BRANCH	REASON FOR CHANGE: PROMOTION/ HOURS SALARY/ TRANSFER RESIGNATION
Erika Hogan	Assistant Manager	4/1/24	FT	E	\$55,000/year	38	Main	Replaced Joy Walk
Joseph Taylor	Branch Manager	4/29/24	FT	F	\$64,000/year	38	COL	Replaced John Guscott
Jalisa Goodwin	PSP	4/1/24	PT	UI	\$20.19	29	South	Replaced Catalina Baeza

Mr. Ackerman moved, Mr. Byrne seconded to Approve the Personnel Appointments in May.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2024-040: yeas, unanimous**

#2024-041 Resolution of Appreciation - Michael Diamond, HR Director

**Resolution of Appreciation**

**WHEREAS**, the Lorain Public Library System is fortunate to have many employees who are dedicated and committed to the library; and

**WHEREAS**, Michael Diamond, Director of Human Resources, began work at Lorain Public Library System on August 20, 2018 and has served in that capacity since. He will retire on May 31, 2024 after six years of faithful and dedicated service; and

**WHEREAS**, after many prior years of public service in education, he brought a commitment to the ideals of servant leadership, a dedication to relationship-building, and an extensive knowledge base that led to the betterment of the Library, its staff, and patrons, and

**WHEREAS**, his calm and affable demeanor, his sense of humor, and his genuine interest in the people he interacted with served as both a warm welcome and source of stability for every staff member, and

**WHEREAS**, his commitment to the Library and to helping others shone through with everything he did, large and small, from the usual functions of his position, to being the first to intercede in a tense situation, to stopping on his way into the library to pick up litter, has made him an invaluable asset within the Lorain Public Library System, and

**WHEREAS**, he has been as a crucial member of the administrative team by serving as a valued sounding board, sharing his expertise, and helping navigate problems with an unparalleled objectivity and one-of-a-kind smile, and

**WHEREAS**, he has earned the respect and admiration of countless Trustees, Friends of the Library, staff and community members by treating every person with care, humor and understanding; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lorain Public Library System Board of Trustees does publicly acknowledge Michael Diamond and his contribution to our library system, extends its appreciation on behalf of the Board and Staff, and wishes him well in his retirement.

Dr. Badillo moved, Mr. Byrne seconded to Approve the Resolution of Appreciation - Michael Diamond, HR Director.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2024-041: yeas, unanimous**

Other Agenda Items

Dr. Badillo requested the board approve a contract for ConnectedHR to complete an audit of the library's set-up after having a discussion with Nora Corrigan, HR Consultant. The request is to discuss the library's organizational chart. Mr. Bryne, Ms. Ramirez and Mr. Ackerman mentioned that this request should be presented at the next Library Services and Personnel Committee meeting to then discuss it at the next board meeting in June. After a lengthy discussion, Board President, Ms. Snipes-Martin requested an Executive Session to discuss the discipline of a public employee or official.

**#2024-042 Resolution to Approve Entering Executive Session to Consider the Discipline of a Public Employee or Official**

Mr. Byrne moved, Ms. Ramirez seconded to approve Entering Executive Session to Consider the Discipline of a Public Employee or Official.

**Roll Call for Resolution #2024-042: 4 yeas, 1 excused – Mr. Ackerman excused himself from the meeting at 5:41 p.m.**

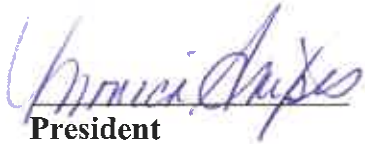
Entered Executive Session at 5:41 p.m.

Reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

President Snipes-Martin stated that the next Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the South Lorain Branch.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
**President**

  
**Secretary**

