

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
LORAIN, OHIO**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 24, 2024

Vice President Dr. Badillo called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. Vice President Dr. Badillo 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, excused; Dr. Badillo, yes; Ms. McClelland, yes; Ms. Torres, yes; Mr. Ackerman, yes; Ms. Ramirez, excused, Mr. Byrne, yes.

#2024-063 Approval of September 19, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Ackerman moved, Ms. McClelland seconded to approve the September 19, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-063: yeas, unanimous

#2024-064 Approval of September 2024 Fiscal Officer Report

Ms. McClelland moved, Ms. Torres seconded to approve the September 2024 Fiscal Officer Report.

CFO Angney called attention to some of the Consent Agenda items in regard to tax levy amounts, adjustment fees, grants and donations received, as well as the Columbia Branch Levy options. CFO Angney attended the Lorain County Budget Commission meeting on September 30 regarding property taxes due to valuation changes. CFO Angney will be looking at rolling out online requisitions to branch managers in the near future.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-064: yeas, unanimous

Report of the Director

Director Diamond-Ortiz provided feedback on Staff Development Day (October 14). The initial survey feedback has been positive, and all presentations and breakout sessions were positive with some concern regarding the Artificial Intelligence (AI) presentation. Director Diamond-Ortiz discussed this during the October Dishing with the Director and plans on providing additional AI information and updates to staff going forward. Director Diamond-Ortiz provided an update on the Civic Engagement project LPLS is

involved in and stated that we assisted with obtaining ticket vouchers from Lorain County Transit to provide community members rides to the Board of Elections or to the polling areas to vote.

Committee Reports

Finance, Audit, and Properties Committee – None – Next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Avon Branch

Library Services and Personnel Committee – None – Next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Avon Branch

Trustee Development and Nominating Committee – None

Friends of the Library – Friends of the Main Library has had a very successful year. From January through May YTD the Lorain Friends have raised \$5,440 in book sales, \$619 in donations and \$350 membership fees. North Ridgeville Friends of the Library's long awaited fall book sale wrapped up this past Sunday raising \$3,335.30. The Friends of the Columbia Branch Library hosted their first Bingo Night at Eagles on Thursday, October 16 and they raised \$4,400. The Avon Friends will be hosting their next book sale on Saturday, November 9 from 11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Lorain Public Library Friends will be hosting their Holiday Bazaar Friday, November 28 and Saturday, November 29 to coincide with Winterfest.

Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System – Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28 and they will evaluate and award the grant applications received.

Communications - None

Audience Participation

Mr. John Guscott, Interim Main Branch Manager, shared that he has been getting to know the staff and patrons at Main and sharing his time between Main and the Domonkas Branches. Domonkas recently had a Trunk and Treat in Sheffield that was successful and will have three additional ones. Mr. Guscott mentioned the registrations for the upcoming Fall programs on November 15 and is starting to work on the Spring 2025 programs with the managers.

New Business
Consent Agenda
#2024-065 to #2024-069

#2024-065 Approval of Personnel Appointments in September

APPOINTMENTS								
NAME	POSITION	DATE	PT/FT/TEMP HOURS	GRADE/STEP	SALARY	DEPT/BRANCH	NEW HIRE/CURRENT STAFF	REASON FOR CHANGE
Jennifer Winkler	COO	9/23/24	FT - 38	H	\$91,000/year	Main	Current	Replaces Cheryl Grizzell
Alexa Fazi	Student	9/23/24	PT - 15	A	\$10.45	Avon	New	Replaces Lauren Valderrama
Jocelyn Nunez-Colon	PSP	10/7/24	PT - 29	UI	\$20.50	South	New	Replaces Skylar Reichlin
Alexandra Faulk	Student	10/21/24	PT - 15	A	\$10.45	Main	New	Previously Vacant
Heza Davila	Student	10/21/24	PT - 15	A	\$10.45	Main	New	Previously Vacant

#2024-066 Approval of the adjustment to the fee charged for disposable earbuds sold to the public from \$1.00 to \$.50 due to the decrease in costs incurred by the Library and set the cost of \$.20 for ledger paper prints.

#2024-067 Resolution to Approve the Tax Levy Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor.

#2024-068 Resolution to Approve the Acceptance of a Grant - \$15,000 Community Foundation of Lorain County restricted to use in Level Up Tutoring Program.

#2024-069 Resolution to Approve the Acceptance of a Donation - \$10,000 Dorothy MacIntyre with no restriction on use.

Mr. Byrne moved, Mr. Ackerman seconded to approve all Consent Items #2024-065 to #2024-069.

Roll Call for Resolutions #2024-065 to #2024-069: yeas, unanimous

Other Agenda Items

- Discussion of Columbia Branch Levy
Director Diamond-Ortiz opened up a discussion regarding the Columbia Branch Levy and recommended a replacement levy from the information provided with the various renewal/replacement options. The current lease on the Columbia Branch will end in 2026 and LPLS is currently looking at other property for the Library. Director Diamond-Ortiz has had several different conversations with Columbia Township members, community members, etc. to get a feel of what the community members want. An in-depth discussion about the levy with all board members was had and the board members agreed to consider a Replacement 1.74 mill levy for the Columbia Branch. Director Diamond-Ortiz mentioned that we must act now to be able to get on the May 2025 ballot. Director Diamond-Ortiz will work with the LPLS attorney to get the document written up for approval and vote at the November board meeting.
- Discussion of Bylaws – Article VI Committees Section 4
Ms. McClelland mentioned that she was reviewing the bylaws regarding the Trustee Development and Nominating Committee, and she felt that the process of nominating potential board members was inefficient and should be streamlined and clearer. Ms. McClelland wanted to have an open discussion about the process going forward. Suggestions were made to have the entire board nominate and vote on potential board members at January Organizational meetings and to possibly move Section 4 to either Article III Meetings or Article IV Officers section. A red-lined update to Section 4 of Article VI will be sent to the board members for review.

Ms. Cheri Campbell, Librarian at Main Branch, introduced herself as the Union Representative since Mr. Nate Box could not be in attendance due to being at a conference.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

ATTEST:


President


Secretary