



Board of Trustees Regular Meeting MINUTES

Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 4:00pm
McGuire Community Room
610 Woodmere Ave., MI 49686

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Pakieser at 4:00pm. Present were: Pakieser (President); Jones (Vice President); Vickery (Secretary); Odgers (Treasurer); Beuthin and Gedman (Trustees). Deyo was absent. Also present were: Howard (Director); Baldwin, and Carpenter (Staff).

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

All members in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

It was MOVED by Odgers, SUPPORTED by Jones, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED.

4. **Public Comment**

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

5. **Consent Calendar**

- a. *Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of January 18, 2024*
- b. *Department Reports*
- c. *Finance and Facilities Committee Report – February 6, 2024*
- d. *Policy and Personnel Committee Report – February 6, 2024*
- e. *Financial Report*
- f. *Member Library Communications – FLPL | IPL | PCL*
- g. *Friends of TADL Report – Jud Barclay, President*
- h. *Correspondence*

It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Odgers, to remove item 5f, Member Library Communications, to allow for a verbal report from the Peninsula Community Library Director who was in attendance, and to accept and affirm receipt of the consent calendar information as presented. Motion CARRIED.

6. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

Vicki Shirly, Peninsula Community Library Director, reported that Lori Brickman, a member of the PCL board had recently passed. A walking trail previously planned on the library's 5.25 acres of land will be name after Brickman in thanks for all that she has done for the PCL community. PCL will celebrate five years in the new building on September 5th. Shurly thanked the TADL board for all that they do for them.

7. **Presentation: Talking Book Library, Anita Chouinard**

Howard noted that this presentation was cancelled and would take place at the April meeting.

8. **Director Report**

Howard confirmed her report and highlighted the following:

- Howard showcased two items, an Iron Man-like helmet and a decorative mandala that were made with TADL's new 3D printer. Morey, Assistant Director of Technology, added that the printer is capable of printing five different colors and/or materials at once.
- Howard and several staff members will be attending the PLA (Public Library Association) Conference the first week of April. There will be no board committee meetings that week.
- Safe Harbor has decided not to be open in the summer. There are no security guards scheduled at TADL for the summer but STT Security will be responsive should the need change.
- The voting location for Precinct 7 permanently moved to TADL this year. It was a quiet day of in-person voters.
- The bathroom remodel is going well. A small unexpected pipe leak occurred in the local history room but staff mobilized quickly, tarping and protecting all materials. Nothing was lost.
- TC Tourism is trying to make the Traverse City region a certified autism destination. TADL was approached about participating staff education and certification. TC Tourism will pay the cost of the course. All TADL staff will be participating.

9. **Old Business**

a. *Board Study Session & Retreat – Location and Draft Agenda*

Kingsley Branch has been selected as the location for the May 16th study session and retreat. A draft agenda was included in the packet, however if a copy and viewing rights become available for the documentary *ABC's of Book Banning* it will be added to the agenda.

b. *Millage Fact Sheet*

A draft millage fact sheet was distributed to trustees. When completed, it will be used as an informational handout for patrons and be accessible on the website. The Yes Committee can also use these facts in a persuasive marketing piece. Richard Lewis and Amy Shamroe have committed to the Yes Committee and are working on generating funds for the committee's millage campaign. The committee will consider yard signs, mailers, newspaper articles and more. Trustees can donate time and/or a donation to the Yes Committee as an individual, but not as a representative of TADL. Trustees would like to ensure that communications spotlight that the millage is a continuance of operation and not a new initiative.

10. **New Business**

a. *Bathroom Budget Approval*

Howard noted that a few additional expenses for ADA accessible power doors, changing tables, and menstrual products, have arisen for the bathroom renovation. She is asking the board to approve the expenses totaling \$24,809 to be taken from the Public Improvement Fund. She also noted that it might be necessary to change the bathroom lighting after the completion, and if so it would more likely be in 2025. It was MOVED by Beuthin, SUPPORTED by Gedman, to approve purchase of the items presented at a cost not to exceed \$25,000. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Jones – aye	Odgers – aye	Pakieser – aye	Deyo – absent
Gedman – aye	Beuthin – aye	Vickery – aye	

Motion CARRIED with 6 ayes.

b. *Discussion Item: TADL and Regional Literacy*

Howard provided an article on the problem of illiteracy in America. She posed the conversation around breaking the cycle of generational poverty and generational literacy. TADL offers a wealth of literacy programs and opportunities for youth, but could do more the adult literacy. A

conversation ensued on the broad issue of low literacy levels and what extent TADL can be a catalyst for change. Discussion will continue at the May study session and retreat.

11. Public Comment

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

12. Trustee Comment

a. *Sharing Ideas*

President Pakieser reminded the trustees that the power of the board is collectively during official public meetings, not as individuals in direct conversation with the Director. She asked that ideas to share be brought to a board meeting for group discussion. Jones added that the board does not govern the staff. All requests related to a staff tasks and workflow should go through the Director who has been entrusted to handle operations.

President Pakieser recognized and congratulated Odgers, who will be receiving the Bill Montgomery Award from the National Writer's Series in April.

Odgers noted that she nominated TADL for the Human Rights Award. Howard made a brief presentation to the Human Rights Commission as a candidate for the award. A decision on the award recipient will be made soon. Odgers was also asked to present a program at the Michigan Library Association Conference in October.

Beuthin suggested TADL offer education to reporters on how to connect with the library in pursuit of their stories. Howard also recognized the importance of journalism to democracy and agreed that this type of assistance could be beneficial for the community.

Vickery emphasized that the core enterprise of the library is literacy on many levels, including reading literacy, civic literacy, and media literacy to name a few. TADL is in a prime position to be a convener for conversations around literacy and to stimulate literacy partnerships.

13. Closed Session (if needed)

A closed session was not needed.

14. Adjournment

With a motion to adjourn by Odgers, supported by Jones, President Pakieser adjourned the meeting at 5:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by board vote on April 18, 2024

V. Carpenter, Recording Secretary

M. Vickery, Board Secretary