



Board of Trustees Regular Meeting MINUTES

Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 4:00pm
Fife Lake Public Library
77 Lakecrest Ln., Fife Lake, MI 49633

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Pakieser at 4:12pm. Present were: Pakieser (President); Jones (Vice President); Odgers (Treasurer); Vickery (Secretary); Beuthin, and Deyo (Trustees). Gedman (Trustee) was absent. Also present were: Howard (Director); Carpenter, and Baldwin (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. The following people addressed the board: Noreen Broering, President of the Fife Lake Public Library (FLPL) Board of Trustees, welcomed the TADL Board and expressed appreciation for all the support FLPL receives from TADL.

5. **Consent agenda**

- a. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting - April 18, 2024
Study Session & Retreat - May 16, 2024
- b. Department Reports
- c. Finance and Facilities Committee Report – June 4, 2024
- d. Policy and Personnel Committee Report – June 4, 2024
 - i. Policy Revision: ACH Policy 2.9
 - ii. Policy Revision: Art Exhibition Policy 4.07
 - iii. Policy Revision: Display Case Policy 4.08
- e. Financial Reports – April and May
- f. Member Library Communications – FLPL | IPL | PCL
- g. Friends of TADL Report – Jud Barclay, President
- h. Correspondence

It was MOVED by Beuthin, SUPPORTED by Odgers, to affirm receipt and accept the consent calendar information as presented. Motion CARRIED.

6. **Items removed from the Consent Calendar**

There were no items removed from the Consent Calendar.

7. **Director Report**

Howard confirmed her report and highlighted the following:

- Book banning update: Some non-profits and free-speech organizations like PEN America and the ACLU are now joining forces with some of the largest publishing houses in the US, like Penguin and Simon & Schuster, to fight book banning in libraries.
- Feeding America has been going well with around 100 lunches handed out daily, Monday through Friday. On the Summer Reading Club kick-off day there were 1800 visitors and 213 lunches handed out.
- Howard is visiting all township meetings within the district and providing factual information on library services and sharing a variety of items that patrons can check out with their library card.
- TADL is now a Certified Autism Center. The training was completed by nearly 90% of employees and paid for by Traverse City Tourism. Staff is discussing design of neurodivergent programs for the near future.

Deyo inquired about a security audit. Howard noted that a more robust emergency and security manual is currently in the works. When it is finished staff will receive training on the information and procedures.

8. **Old Business**

a. *Millage Back-up Plan Approval*

As discussed at the retreat, Howard presented three different ballot resolutions to the board for the purposes of selecting the direction the board would like to take for the November election if the millage does not pass in August. The resolutions, drawn up by Jocks (Counsel), include: a straight renewal of the current millage rate of .9044mil with another Headlee rollback bringing it down to .8937mil; an identical ballot to take back to the voters a second time around at a rate of 1.1mils; and a third option to increase the millage rate to 1.3mils. After some discussion it was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Deyo, to approve the resolution with ballot language of 1.1mils, the same request going to the voters in August. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

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

Motion CARRIED with 6 aye, one absent.

9. **New Business**

a. *2023 Audit Review and Acceptance*

Howard noted that the auditors presented TADL’s 2023 financial audit and answered questions at the June Finance and Facilities Committee meeting. All trustees had an opportunity to attend. Baldwin, reviewed a few items from the audit and also noted that the 2023 MERS annual actuarial report had come in since the audit completion indicating that TADL’s unfunded pension liability is currently about 94% funded. It was also noted that medical insurance plan costs will be much higher this year, possibly close to 20% higher.

Beuthin congratulated Baldwin and Howard on the incredible job done in handling the TADL finances, and for receiving a good, clean audit. It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Deyo, to accept the audit as presented and file it with the State of Michigan as required. A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

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

Motion CARRIED with 6 aye, one absent.

b. *Millage Debate Task Force Endorsement Request*

Howard had received a letter seeking support for revitalizing candidate debates in Michigan. Vickery noted that the Policy and Personnel Committee had discussed whether an endorsement of the request was appropriate, but did not have a recommendation to support it from the committee. TADL's policy is to simply offer public library space for use by the community. It is not the library's role to provide support or endorsement of non-library programs presented within the space. After much discussion, it was MOVED by Beuthin , SUPPORTED by Jones, to decline the request and not take any action of support or endorsement. Motion CARRIED.

c. *Discussion: 2024 Library User Survey Results*

Howard noted that the library user survey results were done annually as outlined in the strategic plan activities. Statistics and comments were reviewed and briefly discussed among Howard and the trustees. Although it was a small sampling of the total users, suggestions were noted. It was clear that those who did respond were highly engaged with the library.

10. **Public Comment**

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. The following people addressed the board: Broering said that it is nice to host the TADL board meeting and added that it is helpful for the FLPL Board to see the TADL board process in action.

11. **Trustee Comment**

Vickery recommended that if the board would like feedback for the next strategic plan, they should be proactive in the process. Beuthin thanked the FLPL staff and board for all that they do for the Fife Lake community.

12. **Closed Session (if needed)**

A closed session was not needed.

13. **Adjournment**

With no more business to address, and a motion from Odgers, President Pakieser adjourned the meeting at 5:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by board vote on August 15, 2024

V. Carpenter, Recording Secretary

M. Vickery, Board Secretary