

**LORAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
LORAIN, OHIO**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 15, 2024

President Ms. Snipes-Martin called the meeting to order at 5:05 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, yes; Ms. Torres, yes; Mr. Ackerman, yes; Ms. Ramirez, yes.

#2024-018 Approval of January 17, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes

Dr. Badillo moved, Ms. Torres seconded to approve the January 17, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-018: yeas, unanimous

#2024-019 Approval of January 18, 2024, Organizational Meeting Minutes

Ms. Torres moved, Ms. McClelland seconded to approve the January 18, 2024, Organizational Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-019: yeas, unanimous

#2024-020 Approval of January 18, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

Dr. Badillo moved, Ms. McClelland seconded to approve the January 18, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-020: yeas, unanimous

#2024-021 Approval of January 2024 Fiscal Officer Report

Dr. Badillo moved, Ms. Torres seconded to approve the January 2024 Fiscal Officer Report.

CFO Angney gave an update on the financials to include information on the 2023 yearend unencumbered balances that carried over to 2024 were slightly higher than amounts included on December 31; this increase has no impact on financial operations beyond representing additional funds that may be appropriated in 2024 if needed. Mr. Angney also mentioned three Then and Now payments for World Book, Inc., Gergley's Maintenance King and Glo-Mar Construction and Remodeling.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-021: yeas, unanimous

Report of the Director

Assistant Director Grizzell introduced Yoland Ramos, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Culinary Literacy and Wellness to provide a presentation on the Solidarity Urban Farm at the Main Branch. Ms. Ramos gave a brief description of the farm and introduced Father Alex Barton, Priest, Episcopal Church of the Redeemer and Henry Albanese, Farmer at Solidarity Urban Farm.

- New species in 2024 (Brassica family includes arugula, Bok choy, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, collard greens, kale and more.
- Secured an Executive Chef from downtown Lorain Ariel Hotel (The Gilmore) to offer a live cooking demonstration on summer squash promoting health and wellness and growing our own food.
- South Lorain is now online with a new partnership – LCCC Sustainable Agriculture Department.
- Continue to build strategically upon the 2023 Culinary Literacy and Wellness Initiative by offering the Seed Banks as well as strengthening our community in offering hands-on programming with the Ohio State University Extension Master Gardeners expertise.
- Providing patrons kitchen safety, cooking techniques and expanding the Culture of Summer program.
- Incorporating partnerships through our investment of being a member of the Ohio Farm Bureau and connecting the communities with Lorain County local farms and gardens to integrate the Kids Cook program.

Ms. Jennifer Winkler, Director of Community Engagement gave a presentation on the upcoming North Ridgeville levy. Annual and renovation updates to the community (Phase 1 almost completed).

- The Speakers Bureau for the North Ridgeville Levy is well underway, and most speaking engagements will be completed in February to coincide with early voting.
- Speaking engagements include all civic organizations, North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce, Republican Club, Democratic Club, parent events at North Ridgeville City Schools, and city-wide events such as the Ladies' Brunch and Men's Breakfast at the North Ridgeville Senior Center.
- Each speaking engagement is tailored to meet the needs of each community group and covers information about Issue #8, the library renewal, updates on renovations, and highlights of upcoming programs and services.

- Community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive for both the levy and renovations. Many community members have emphasized their support for the renewal as it's not a tax increase. Dozens of community members have expressed excitement for the expanded meeting spaces and the Create Space and are eagerly awaiting the grand reopening.

Committee Reports

Finance, Audit, and Properties Committee – Meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Avon Branch

Library Services and Personnel Committee – Meeting scheduled for March 8, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the Avon Branch

Trustee Development and Nominating Committee – None

Friends of the Library – None

Foundation of the Lorain Public Library System – Ms. Ramirez mentioned that they are working on the Foundation website and that Library Giving Day is on April 3, 2024.

Audience Participation

Ms. Donna Kelly Sprinkle, Avon Branch Manager, provided information on the new Connections Program Guide (March to May 2024).

New Business

Consent Agenda

#2024-022 Approval of Personnel Appointments in February

APPOINTMENTS								
NAME	POSITION	DATE	PT/FT/TEMP	GRADE STEP	SALARY	HOURS	DEPT/BRANCH	REASON FOR CHANGE: PROMOTION/HOURS SALARY/TRANSFER RESIGNATION
Marisa Arroyo Kaszas	PSA	2/5/24	PT	UH	\$18.18	29	NOR	Replaced Lily Morris-Mathis
Ursula Wachholz	Tutor	2/5/24	PT		\$25.87	12	Main	

#2024-023 Resolution to Approve Then and Now Payment to World Book, Inc.

Approve a Then and Now Payment to World Book, Inc. for Library materials (encyclopedias) as follows:

Check #	Amount	Date Paid
3443	\$3,597	1-24-2024

#2024-024 Resolution to Approve Then and Now Payment to Gergely's Maintenance King.

Approve a Then and Now Payment to Gergely's Maintenance King for Janitorial services (January) as follows:

Check #	Amount	Date Paid
3499	\$3,724.88	1-31-2024

#2024-025 Resolution to Approve Then and Now Payment to Glo-Mar Construction and Remodeling. Approve a Then and Now Payment to Glo-Mar Construction and Remodeling for Emergency Repairs – Columbia Water Line Break as follows:

Check #	Amount	Date Paid
3500	\$5,700	1-31-2024

Ms. Torres moved, Ms. McClelland seconded to approve Resolutions #2024-022 to #2024-025.

Roll Call for Resolutions #2024-022 to #2024-025: yeas, unanimous

Other Agenda Items

- Discussion regarding the Solar Eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024.

#2024-026 Resolution to Approve the closing of Lorain Public Library System on Monday, April 8, 2024, for the Solar Eclipse.

Ms. McClelland moved, Dr. Badillo seconded to approve the closing of Lorain Public Library System on Monday, April 8, 2024, for the Solar Eclipse.

Roll Call for Resolution #2024-026: yeas, unanimous

Mr. Ackerman asked about the Board Work Session and if a date has been confirmed and what was on the agenda. Ms. McClelland indicated that the date of the Board Work Session is confirmed for Saturday, April 20, 2024 but that the agenda is still not finalized. Ms. McClelland said that they are exploring the possibility of inviting a third party to come talk to the group. Mr. Ackerman indicated that he would like to set up a meeting with CEO Diamond-Ortiz to discuss the agenda.

Mr. Ackerman also mentioned that he, Ms. Ramirez, President Snipes-Martin, and Branch Manager, Donna Kelly Sprinkle attended the Cleveland City Club luncheon on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 entitled "Can Libraries be Everything to Everyone? " Mr. Ackerman enjoyed the luncheon and indicated that they provided different ideas on how library systems can further help their communities. Ms. Ramirez mentioned filling a gap as far as welcoming the immigrant and refugee communities and helping them with various services (ESOL, trainings, etc.).

The next Finance, Audit and Properties Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, February 26, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Avon Branch.

The next Library Services and Personnel Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, March 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. the Avon Branch.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Avon Branch.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

ATTEST:


President


Secretary

