

Minutes of the Aurora Public Library District Board of Trustees

June 24, 2019 Meeting

The Aurora Public Library District Board of Trustees met on June 24, 2019, at the Aurora Public Library.

Benjamin Turner was installed as a member of the Aurora Public Library District Board of Trustees, beginning his third four-year term.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by President Ben Turner. In attendance were Board members Dorothy Svava, Angela Burkhardt, Maureen Eller, Randy Dennis, Sue Manford, and Michelle Ryan. Library Director Margaret Dean (Peggy) and Business Manager Janet Hall-Louden were also present. Also present was staff member Cory Lyon.

Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Manford and seconded by Burkhardt to approve the May 20, 2019 Board Meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Librarian's Report

The Library District received a thank-you note from John Blasdel concerning our support and participation in the 2019 Pioneer Day at Hillforest.

The 100th Talk About Aurora History was presented at the Aurora Lions Club on May 28, 2019 with opening remarks given by Ben Turner, Library Board President. The program was well-attended and attendees also enjoyed tours of the Tim Miller renovation on the lower end of Second Street. The next Talk About Aurora History will focus on Aurora natives who went on to do great things in Cincinnati.

On May 23rd, Cathy Wilkmacky attended the Dillsboro Elementary School Awards Day to recognize the winners of the Crossroads Exhibit Writing Contest. Winners were Brooklyn Whitney for grades K-1, Nevaeh McDaniel for Grades 2-4, and Kaitlyn Ballew for grades 5-6. Each winner received a certificate and a book by an Indiana author.

The 2019 Summer Reading Program is in full swing and will continue through July 26th. Approximately 550 children, teens, and adults have registered for the program and attendance has been strong at most of the library events. The Star Lab introduced the movement of the constellations to over 80 people to the Aurora Public Library on Friday, June 7th with the assistance of Milan teacher Sherri Zornes. Other Fun Family Friday programs have been presented by the Greater Cincinnati STEM Collaborative, the Cincinnati Museum Center, and the Cincinnati Observatory. The number of people attending weekly Storytimes has been up over the last month, due to a less restrictive age policy that allows siblings to attend during the summer months. Kevin Stonerock's presentation "Steamboat's a Coming" was a fascinating look at how river transportation has changed over time. The program was attended by a small number of patrons, but those in attendance were very appreciative of the music and the stories.

Old Business

Rodent Problem at the Local History Library: The treatment plan conducted by Terminix appears to have taken care of the infestation and the Local History Library has been added to the contract for regular site inspections.

Background checks: We have received criminal history checks from the majority of staff members; however, a few are still outstanding.

Staffing: Since the last Board meeting, 2 full-time employees have resigned. Rose Trog's last day was June 7, 2019 and Shelby Austin's last day was June 21, 2019. They will both be greatly missed. Trog filled a unique role on the staff, performing both cataloging and Inter-Library Loan responsibilities. Rather than hire a new person as a Cataloging Assistant, these jobs have been given to other staff members, with the goal of having at least two staff members who can carry out each of these tasks. Cory Lyon has completed his training and has been converted to a full-time position. Shirley Smith began as a part-time employee on June 3rd.

New Business

Door replacement

The doors at the lower level entrance of the Aurora Public Library have become very difficult to shut. The doors are currently rubbing together at the top and are rubbing against the threshold. A service call was made by the company who installed the doors, but the operation has not improved. Due to the time delay in getting approval for changes within the Historic District, Dean applied to have the replacement of the doors considered at the June meeting of the Aurora Historic Preservation Commission. Approval was given by the Commission and a Certificate of Appropriateness has been received. The Board of Trustees tabled discussion of a replacement door until more information can be obtained about whether it is possible to make the lower entrance an automatic door and until quotes can be obtained.

Finances

The Library District received the Spring settlement of tax funds in the amount of \$517,784.87 from property taxes. There had previously been an advance payment of property tax revenues of \$18,054.74, bringing the total Spring settlement to \$535,839.61.

In May, the Library District also received a payment of \$48,025.30 from the License Excise Tax, \$1,979.00 from the Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax (CVET), and \$20,854.67 from Local Income Taxes (LIT).

Dean presented information on Indiana Bill 1343 which allows local fiscal authorities to assume responsibility for approving Public Library budgets. The handout presented to the Board is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

The Aurora Public Library District accepted a grant of \$2,000.00 from the Ross Foundation to help in funding a permanent display in the Dillsboro Public Library basement. This display is being used to supplement the \$2,000.00 stipend from Indiana Humanities that is part of the Crossroads Grant.

Claims: A motion was made by Ryan and seconded by Burkhardt to accept the following June claims: 001422-001430, 009238-009283 and 506307E-506339E totaling \$96,113.59. These claims are listed on the Check Summary Register and will be filed for audit. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The May 2019 Treasurer's Report was presented. A motion was made by Eller and seconded by Dennis to accept the report. The motion carried.

The next meeting will be at the Aurora Public Library on Monday, July 22, 2019 at 6 p.m.

Eller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Eller

Maureen Eller, Secretary

Angela Burkhardt

Maureen Eller

Michelle Ryan

Sue Manford
