



**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**June 13, 2018**  
**Carman Community Room**

**Trustees present: Spadafore, Gutierrez, Budmen, MacLaughlin, Hluchyj, Schapley.**  
**Excused: Hewitt**  
**Staff: G. Wisniewski, Director; D. Morgan; M. St. Leger, Clerk to the Board**  
**Others: Staff and community members**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

President Spadafore called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**B. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**C. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Grant award for The Great American Read program from American Library Association (\$2,000).
- Letter from Liverpool First Presbyterian Church thanking the LPL for all we do for the community, and including the library in a prayer tree on June 10, 2018.

**D. AGENDA CHANGES: none**

**E. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of May 2, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of Monthly Bills for May
3. Transfers

Gutierrez made a motion and Hluchyj seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. All were in favor.

**F. REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

**1. Treasurer's Report**

- The board received copies of the expenses and revenues through the end of May.

**2. President's Report**

I would like to thank some people before I get to my comments. First and foremost, I want to thank my wife Karen, who has supported me in all my community endeavors. Secondly, I want to thank my parents who moved to such a great community over 60 years ago and gave me every opportunity to succeed. Without them I wouldn't be standing before you now.

My association with the library began when I was hired as a page in August of 1987. From there, I became an integral part of the computer room. I was "Mark in the computer room" troubleshooting all kinds of problems on the variety of computers. I loved my job, and I loved the opportunities the library offered to me. After I graduated high school, I was hired back at LPL during my summers when I was in college. After college, I was hired full time and worked here until 1995. Then in 1998, I was asked by some of my former colleagues to run for the LPL Board to support the CSEA organizing drive here. I won, and I've been serving on the board ever since. For those of you counting, that's twenty years on the board and 30 years overall.

It was a time of change for LPL – Faye Golden had retired and my first meeting was also the first meeting for the new director, Sharon Nottingham. Sharon really brought systems into place to make what the library needed – the structure of a major library that sees tens of thousands of visitors every year. Her tenure was a success except for the failure of seeing a branch built in the Northern part of

the district (and wouldn't it look better than the eye sore that still stands empty today). After Sharon came Elizabeth Dailey, Jean Polly, Dan Golden and now Glenna. Between being employed here and serving as trustee, I have worked with six different directors. Each one brought their own take on what the library should be, and I appreciate each one of their efforts.

But what really makes this library the fantastic library that we all enjoy is the staff. I remember years ago a patron I knew had passed away unexpectedly. I was at the wake and was so surprised to see all these LPL staffers there. They were there because that person had come to the library every day and they wanted the family to know how much that person would be missed. That is the dedication of our staff that they treat the patrons who come through those doors like family. We need to remember that it is the staff that the public sees, and we need to nurture and respect those on the "front lines".

I stand on the shoulders of other trustees with whom I served: (in no particular order) Pat Mautino, Fred Elkins, Richard Berryhill, Dan D'Agostino, Michelle Welcher, Natalie Scavone, Larry Dunstone, George Alesio, Joe Spado, and Tim Dodge. I miss Marlene Ward terribly. We had disagreements in the past, but I appreciated her passion for the library and her tough nature. And my mentor Sharon Fulmer. Sharon still lives on in this building and in this community. Sharon did not support me when I first ran for office. When she saw that I was serious about serving on the board, and that I was willing to put in the work, she ended up saying, "You are a good Trustee". I felt like a million dollars when she said that. Towards the end of her life, when she knew that time was short, she arranged the board for a smooth transition. That's when she put me in as Vice-President and said, "It's time to step up, Mark!" I hope that the transition I tried to lay out for the board is as smooth as the example that she provided to me. I can only wish to be as accomplished as Sharon Fulmer.

One important message I want to leave here tonight is that this library is a gem in our community. People come from all over the region – not just the county, but the region – to visit this special place. We get more visitors than any library in the system. We need to take steps to ensure that we still have this gem for years to come. We must continue to build the Foundation we established at the CNY Community Foundation. With our population getting older, and the demographics getting poorer; it will be a challenge to maintain the services that our changing public needs. We need to find alternative ways of raising revenue besides property taxes. I believe if we build up that fund, we can have the interest fund things that the library needs and not the tax payers. I would encourage the board to keep looking at renewable energy sources so that our tax dollars are not going utilities but back into services.

And this work is important. Libraries are the vanguard against Fascism. Only with the free flow of information can we have a democracy that works. We see all around us now the effects of the overflow of information and misinformation. As a library, we must continue to be a trusted and reliable source of information and knowledge for the public.

Lastly, I want to say that though we will have challenges in the coming years, I leave this board knowing that it is in good hands. Glenna has been a good steward of the library. And of course, where would we be without Dorothy Morgan? During all my years here, Dorothy – who like me started as a page and rose to be an Acting Director – has kept the library in her heart and mind. For all the Trustees – if you follow Dorothy's advice – you will NEVER go wrong! I wouldn't be the Trustee I am if it wasn't for the counsel and advice of Dorothy Morgan. I am also thrilled that we made history with electing Denise Baker as the first African American elected to this board.

As we move forward, Liverpool is changing, or I should say, continues to change. We have a history that is longer than the City of Syracuse. One thing that doesn't change is that we have something special when we come together as one, whether it's for our schools, our libraries or our community. I challenge each of us reach out and connect so that our whole community can benefit from the great place that is Liverpool.

3. Director's Report

- The Lobby Book sale brought in \$2,107.25 in May. The wishing well contained \$27.01 and there was \$115.75 in the donation box. Patrons attending movies donated \$28 while the gift shop brought in \$98.85. Passport Photos earned \$110.00.
- A projected fund balance sheet was provided to the trustees.
- There was discussion regarding the First-Floor renovation. Sprinklers will not be required as there is no change the current footprint.
  - **RESOLUTION:** Spadafore made a motion seconded by Schapley to approve the allocation from fund balance, not to exceed \$900,000 to move forward with the First-Floor Renovation.  
All approve. Motion carries.

4. OCPL Report:

- No report

G. ITEMS FOR ACTION AND DISCUSSION

1. Budget Vote results for 2018-2019 Proposition 4 Liverpool Library Funding: **PASSED**  
**YES: 1018 NO 275**

2. Repeal of Property Tax Cap Override

Whereas, the Liverpool Public Library Board of Trustees made a resolution to Override the Property Tax Cap for the 2018-2019 budget.

The Liverpool Public Library Board of Trustees hereby repeals the resolution dated February 14, 2018.

Budmen made a motion and Hluchyj seconded to accept the resolution. All were in favor. Motion carries.

3. Board Nominating Committee for 2018-2019 Officers

Budmen and Schapley were appointed to the Board Nominating Committee.

4. 2019 Closing Calendar

Budmen made a motion and MacLaughlin seconded to approve the calendar for first reading. All were in favor. Motion carries

5. Personnel

RESIGNATIONS				
First Name	Last Name	Position	Pay Grade	Effective Date
Michael	Burg	Security Guard (part-time)	3	06/10/2018
Jason	Balch	Security Guard (part-time)	3	06/17/2018

Gutierrez made a motion and Hluchyj seconded to accept the personnel changes as presented. All were in favor. Motion carries

H. OPEN FORUM: no comments

I. BOARD FORUM: Budmen complimented Children's and Family Services Coordinator, Amanda Schiavulli on her recent school visits. Budmen stated Schiavulli is doing a phenomenal job and received rave reviews from staff and students alike.

Gutierrez thanked Community Outreach Coordinator, Maggie Foster, for attending the opening of the Willow Museum on June 9<sup>th</sup> and bringing the LPL Book Bike. The event was well attended and it was nice to have the library represented.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Spadafore stated the Board has the need for an executive session for the purpose of discussing a legal matter. Schapley made a motion, seconded by Budmen to enter into executive session at 7:11pm. with action to follow. Morgan, Wisniewski, and Baker were asked to stay.

Schapley made a motion and Gutierrez seconded to leave executive session at 8:33pm.

Spadafore made a motion, seconded by Gutierrez to appoint Robert M. Germain of Germain & Germain, LLP as legal counsel to Liverpool Public Library. Spadafore, Gutierrez, Schapley, Hluchyj and Budmen voted yes, and MacLaughlin voted no. Motion carried.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Budmen made a motion and Schapley seconded to adjourn. Spadafore adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martina St.Leger, Clerk to the Board