



MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
June 10, 2020
Held via Zoom Cloud Conferencing

Trustees present: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, and Schapley.

Absent: Hewitt

**Staff: G. Wisniewski, Director; S. Reckhow, Asst. Director; S. Smith, Admin. Asst.;
M. St. Leger, Clerk to the Board**

Others: Dorothy Morgan, Consultant; Members of staff.

REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Baker called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

B. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

C. ACCEPT MAY MEETING MINUTES.

D. CORRESPONDENCE: none

E. AGENDA CHANGES: none

F. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

1. Financial Report

- The Board received the Budget Status Report through April. These reports were previously distributed electronically.
- Bank Statements through April 2020 with balance reconciliations from LCSD were received and reviewed by the library's business office. The bank statements from Chase and Key are received by LCSD District Treasurer with the reconciliations being done by LCSD Account Clerk. The statements were on hand if called upon for Board review.
- Gouger reviewed each invoice and corresponding account code prior to the meeting and recommended the board authorize payment of invoices dated May 28, 2020 through June 10, 2020. The Board also authorized account transfers.

Budmen seconded the motion.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

2. **President's Report:** Baker shared some comments regarding systemic racism. "The weeks have been troubling with systemic racism rearing its ugly head and folks out in the community supporting African Americans. I think it's important to take this time to recognize systemic racism is just that, a system which has been designed to oppress individuals in our community in ways which are insidious and covert. As this system has been in place for many years, we have developed unconscious bias which has impacted how we view, treat and interact with people of color.

Board members and staff should be aware of unconscious biases and work to resolve them through training and programs to bring awareness. It is my hope in doing this we will create a more diverse and inviting space for all members of our community regardless of race or ethnicity. The Liverpool Library supports the members of the community, reviewing the current services and exploring additional programming to ensure we remain inclusive to all members of the community."

Budmen loved Baker’s comments and wanted to take them a step further asking Wisniewski and Reckhow if the collection could be analyzed to insure it accurately reflects the community we serve and includes authors across the color spectrum. Wisniewski indicated an analysis can be done and while LPL presents a variety of diverse programming but could always do better to present programming that reflects more of our community as it changes. Librarians have been working on reading and viewing lists of items in the catalog to promote items currently in the collection. OCPL created an extensive list of items available throughout the library system. NYPL’s Schomburg Center posted a Black Liberation Reading List and LPL Librarians have been asked to review which titles we have, and which titles should be added to the collection.

3. Director’s Report

- Curbside pickup began June 1st and is going well. 383 patrons picked up items in the first 9 days, with 119 pickups in the last 3 days. This has turned out to be an extensive process, more than originally anticipated. Contact with the patrons to arrange hold pickup is time consuming, and the patrons appear to be very happy to be hearing from the library and looking forward to getting their items. Safety of staff and patrons remains a priority. We are looking for ways to safely increase the number of staff in the building to efficiently address the backlog of patron holds.
- June 29th will be the kickoff for summer reading. Staff is looking into ways to safely manage patron pickup of the kits.
- LPL will try to recoup some of the costs through the FEMA disaster recovery program related to covid-19. The minimum amount of reimbursement is \$3,300. We are compiling a list of all expenses related to covid-19 and will submit a request.
- All indications are the County will enter phase 3 soon with phase 4 to follow in late June or early July. Planning will begin for when and how we will open the building to the public and how to manage the number of patrons.
- Update on the school budget vote. Ballots will not be counted until June 16

4. OCPL Report: OCPL (and Baldwinsville) opened with curbside service on May 26th. LPL, Solvay and Lafayette opened on June 1, others June 8, with the remainder opening on June 15 for curbside pickup. Christian Zabriskie visited LPL recently.

G. ITEMS FOR ACTION AND DISCUSSION

1. Personnel Changes

RESIGNATION

Name	Position	Effective Date
Melita, Lorraine	Librarian I (PTAN)	6/1/2020

Motion to accept the personnel changes as presented by Hluchyj, second by Schapley.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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 2019-2020 budget.

The Liverpool Public Library Board of Trustees hereby repeals the resolution dated February 12, 2020.

Motion by Budmen to repeal the tax cap override second by Hluchyj.

Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley Final Resolution: Motion Carried

3. Board Nominating Committee for 2020-2021 officers

Hluchyj and Schapley were appointed to the Board Nominating Committee.

4. 2021 Closing Calendar

Motion to accept the policy for Second Reading and Final Approval by Gouger, second by Schapley.

Discussion followed. The union has asked to add Sunday, December 26th to the closing calendar.

The day would not be a paid day off. Staff would use time off or take the day without pay. The

board asked for further information and indicated there is usually a popular Boxing Day program. The request was submitted the day of the meeting and is not included in the first reading of the 2021 calendar. The union will be notified and may resubmit the request at a later time for consideration.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

5. ALA Code of Ethics Policy for Second Reading and Final Approval.

Motion to accept the policy for Second Reading and Final Approval by Schapley, second by MacLaughlin.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

6. ALA Bill of Rights Policy for Second Reading and Final Approval.

Motion to accept the policy for Second Reading and Final Approval by MacLaughlin, second by Budmen.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

7. ALA Freedom to Read Policy for Second Reading and Final Approval.

Motion to accept the policy for Second Reading and Final Approval by Gouger, second by Hluchyj.

Discussion followed. Budmen stated this is a statement, not a policy. She noted section 4 "*There is no place in our society for efforts to coerce the taste of others, to confine adults to the reading matter deemed suitable for adolescents, or to inhibit the efforts of writers to achieve artistic expression.*"

Budmen is concerned by the narrative which follows each point as opinion, not a policy statement.

Wisniewski encouraged the board to draft a letter of concern which would be sent to ALA. Alternatively the LPL Board could craft their own Freedom to Read Policy in lieu of using the ALA statement.

Aye: none

Nay: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

8. ALA Freedom to View Policy for Second Reading and Final Approval.

Motion to accept the policy for Second Reading and Final Approval by MacLaughlin, second by Gouger.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

9. Grants. President Baker asked to have this item added to the agenda to start a discussion to explore options to increase funding for the library. There was a discussion. Wisniewski gave an update of current grant applications or intents to apply. Annually there are NYS Construction Grants, The Richberg Grant, and CNY Arts Grants. Our staff has been successful in receiving some grants from ALA to support programming. LPL is not always eligible for grants because it is not a 501c3.

H. OPEN FORUM: Wisniewski updated the board on the fines discussion from the May meeting. Several libraries are waiving fines through the end of the year with the intent of reinstating fines January 1, 2021. LPL has already removed fines from children and teen materials. Board may want to consider waiving the fines on Adult materials, books and media through the end of the year, but keep fines on other items from the library of things. Fines have already been waived across the board til July 1. Discussion followed. The board asked for additional information.

I. BOARD FORUM: Budmen talked about this week (June 8 – 12) being the 2020 Bresnahan Book Award week. Each day, one of the nominated books will be read by a guest which can be viewed on both LCS D and LPL websites. LPL Director Glenna Wisniewski read today's selected book, *The First Men Who Went to the Moon* - written by Rhonda Gowler Greene and illustrated by Scott Brundage. The winning book will be revealed on Friday. Check the LCS D website or LPL.org for a complete list of the books and find out which book has been selected as the recipient of the 2020 Bresnahan Book Award.

Baker shared one more thought with the board. She said that she collected this quote along her travels and that it speaks to her and reminds her to stand and not yield to the world's injustices.

“Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant. Wherever men and women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must - at that moment - become the center of the universe.” — Elie Wiesel, The Night Trilogy: Night, Dawn, the Accident

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Baker stated the need for an executive session to discuss a Legal Matter with no action to follow.

Budmen made a motion and Gouger seconded to move into executive session at 7:42 p.m. with no action to follow for the previously stated matter.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Wisniewski, Reckhow, Smith and Morgan were asked to attend.

Budmen made a motion to return from executive session at 8:07 p.m., seconded by Gouger.

Aye: Baker, MacLaughlin, Budmen, Gouger, Hluchyj, Schapley

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

K. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Martina St. Leger, Clerk to the Board