

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees Eastern Monroe Public Library

The regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Monroe Public Library was held on Aug. 21, 2018 at the Hughes Library.

Present: Charles Green, Jan Selving, Tim Hegarty, Seamus McGraw, Maria Candelaria, Bill Weitzmann, Katherine Neville, Ann Super

Absent: Sharon Laverdure

Staff in attendance: Sue Lyons, Rose Hewitt, Mary Erm

Guests: Dale Kirk, of Kirk Summa and Co.; Phyllis Gibson, president of the Foundation, in attendance as a representative of “Jane Q. Public.”

Public Comment: None

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 A.M. by Board President, A. Super.

Dale Kirk of Kirk Summa presented the board with copies of the **Eastern Monroe Public Library Financial Statements Dec. 31, 2017 and 2016**. As per the report, the libraries position is “copasetic” and expenses have remained “relatively consistent.”

T. Hegarty/K. Neville moved to accepted the minutes of the July 17, 2018 meeting with the following amendment: The minutes incorrectly reflected that M. Candalaria was both present and absent at the July meeting, The minutes were amended to reflect that she was indeed absent. Apologies to Schrodinger and his cat. The motion was carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report – The Board Treasurer, W. Weitzmann, reviewed the report which had been emailed to Trustees previous to the meeting. W. Weitzmann noted that the library had received \$43, 661.23 for the month, but reiterated that costs associated with the operation of the Smithfields Branch continue to threaten the long term financial stability of the library. W. Weitzmann also noted that after four years, the \$250,000 in the Development Fund had grown to about \$454,000.

Comments:

J. Selving/C. Green moved to approve the bills as presented and carried.
The motion was carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Buildings and Equipment – (While there was no report, details were provided regarding the efforts to replace the fire damaged Bookmobile and to restore the books damaged in the blaze. Details appear under ad hoc committee reports.)

Publicity & Community Relations – No report.

Policy and Operation – No report

Personnel – No report.

Strategic Planning –None to report

Ad Hoc Committees:

Bookmobile – The Friends of the Library is still considering a request to pay \$153,000 to purchase a bookmobile from a company in Denver, plus \$3,000 for an extended warranty on the aftermarket modifications made by that company. A motion was made to, pending funding for the bookmobile from the Friends to approve its purchase.

W. Weitzman said the record must reflect that in his estimation, if the Friends funding did not materialize, the library should not proceed. “We have \$156,000 in a deficit budget,” Weitzmann said. “We cannot afford it.”

The motion, by J. Selving/K. Neville, passed with five aye votes. W. Weitzmann abstained, M. Candalaria voted no.

PTL – None

Smithfield – S. Lyons noted that the library/ Middle Smithfield Township is still awaiting a decision on its application for a Keystone grant for \$750,000 to be matched for the proposed library facility at Echo Lake Park and expects to have an answer on the grant by late August or early September. The board should be prepared to discuss the status of the proposal – and develop alternative strategies for the Smithfields operation by the September meeting.

Director’s Report – *A full copy had been distributed by email previous to the meeting.*

Youth Report – *A full copy had been distributed by email previous to the meeting.*

Old Business – None

New Business – **The policy and personnel committees are expected to meet within the month to review the proposed tuition reimbursement plan for employees and be prepared to make a recommendation to the board by the September meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:21 A.M. on a motion by T. Hegarty/W. Weitzmann and was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Seamus McGraw
Secretary**