

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 July 26, 2018 at the Hughes Library.

Present: Sharon Laverdure, Charles Green, Jan Selving, Seamus McGraw, Bill Weitzmann, Katherine Neville, Ann Super,

Absent: Maria Candelaria, Tim Hegarty.

Staff in attendance: Sue Lyons, Rose Hewitt

Guests: None

Public Comment: None

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Board President, A. Super.

S. McGraw/J. Selving moved to accepted the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting. 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 \$506,912.33 for the year to date, and noted that overall the library had exceeded its income expectations but that expenses – particularly the costs associated with the operation of the Smithfields Branch continue to threaten the long term financial stability of the library.

Comments:

W. Weitzmann/S. Laverdure moved to approve the bills as presented and carried. The motion was carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Buildings and Equipment – The recent fire that destroyed the book mobile also damaged a door which will probably need to be replaced, and many of the books aboard the bookmobile at the time of the blaze will need to be cleaned or replaced, S. Lyons reported. The library is awaiting further details from the insurance company.

Publicity & Community Relations – No report.

Policy and Operation – No report

Personnel – K. Neville reminded the board that S. Lyons' annual performance evaluation was due.

Strategic Planning –None to report

Ad Hoc Committees:

Bookmobile – While the library is still awaiting an evaluation and adjustment from the insurance company it appears certain that the bookmobile, a rolling branch of the library and a key element of the library’s brand and identity is beyond repair. S. Lyons identified several options for replacement, and noted that the Friends have set aside funds for a replacement. There was discussion about whether it was essential to replace the bookmobile immediately, or whether the purchase could be postponed. A committee made up of members of the board of trustees as well as staff member and members of the associated boards will meet at 9 am on Aug. 6 to pursue the matter further. S. McGraw and J. Selving will represent the board.

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 and cultural center at Echo Lake Park. In the meantime, the Township is reportedly developing a scaled down version of the proposed building. Action is on hold until both those matters are resolved.

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 – S. Lyons reiterated her request for tuition reimbursement and urged the board’s support. The board has yet to make a decision, but W. Weitzman noted that the library is operating with a \$156,000 deficit, and unless that is made up, he could not support additional spending. A discussion about identifying potential savings elsewhere in operating expenses followed, with the understanding that the matter would remain under discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 on a motion by J. Selving/C.Green and was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Seamus McGraw
Secretary**