

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 Sept. 18, 2018 at the Hughes Library.

Present: Charles Green, Sharon Laverdure, Tim Hegarty, Seamus McGraw, William Weitzmann, Katherine Neville, Ann Super

Absent: Jan Selving, Maria Candelaria

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

Guests: Susan Gardner of the Easton library

Public Comment: None

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

T. Hegarty/C. Green moved to accepted the minutes of the Aug. 21, 2018 meeting.

Treasurer's Report – The Board Treasurer, W. Weitzmann, reviewed the report which had been emailed to Trustees previous to the meeting. W. Weitzmann highlighted the fact that the development fund, started with a modest balance, had grown to \$454, 458, “a real good thing.”

Comments:

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

Committee Reports:

Buildings and Equipment – (No report. M. Erm noted that there was a known defect discovered by the vendor in the book mobile – a leak in the cab-over, and that the vendor is making repairs. That will delay pick up of the book mobile, probably until mid to late October, assuming the weather holds. S. Lyons also noted that a film crew from the public television station in the Lehigh Valley has asked permission to document the bookmobile's cross country travels.)

Publicity & Community Relations – No report.

Policy and Operation – No report

Personnel – S. Lyons requested that the board approve the tuition reimbursement policy for employees seeking degrees in library science. The policy would allow employees to be

reimbursed for 90 percent of their tuition only costs, budget permitting, up to \$200 per credit. The first payouts would be expected to be made – again, budget permitting – in 2019.

S. Laverdure/T. Hegarty made a motion to adopt the policy as outlined. Adopted unanimously.

Strategic Planning –None to report

Ad Hoc Committees:

Bookmobile - A. Super announced that the Pocono Arts Council planned to hold a contest to design the graphics for the vehicle wrap to be applied to the new bookmobile.

She urged the board to approve \$100 to be offered as a prize.

K. Neville/S. Laverdure moved to approve the award. The motion passed unanimously.

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. In the meantime, the township is working with its architect to revise plans for the proposed building, modeled in many respects after the Broadhead Watershed Association’s new building in Analomink. In a related matter, the Smithfield’s Committee is set to meet on Monday, Sept. 24 at the Hughes Library to discuss contingency plans for the facility when the lease expires at the end of this year, including but not limited to extending the current lease on a short term basis.

Director’s Report – *A full copy had been distributed by email previous to the meeting.* Board members were reminded that the TedX talk – focusing on the arts in the eastern Monroe region – is scheduled for Oct. 13, from 2-4 pm, and the talks will be recorded by students from East Stroudsburg University. She also noted that the management of the café has asked for the board’s blessing to close at 6 pm and on Sundays when traffic to the café is light. There were no objections and no formal action appears to be required.

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

Old Business – None

New Business – S. McGraw unsigned letter from a patron urging the board to reconsider its policy of requiring patrons to leave their library cards with staff while perusing certain periodicals. S. Lyons noted that the practice only applies to particular periodicals – The Pocono Record, The New Yorker, and the Morning Call – which have a tendency to disappear once they’re lent out. No changes are anticipated.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 A.M. on a motion by C. Green/W. Weitzmann and was carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Seamus McGraw
Secretary**