

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 remotely on December 19, 2023.

Present: Betsy Buzzelli-Clarke, Erik Diemer, Trudie Lear, Dawn Migliacci, Joni Oye-Benintende, Aaron DeAngelo

Absent: Danny Younger, Debbie Kulick, Pete Pappalardo

Staff in attendance: Sue Lyons, Cheryl Brice, Rose Hewitt, Julie Bonser

The meeting was called to order at 8:37 A.M. by Board President Trudie Lear.

President's Remarks: President T. Lear gave a quick overview of the past year's activities, including changes on the board as well as the Library. She gave a public farewell and thank you to E. Diemer and Sue Lyons for their hard work and devotion to the Library. She also announced that the County Commissioners are meeting this week to establish their budget. It is hoped that the budget will include an increase in millage for the Library.

Minutes of the November 21, 2023 meeting: J. Benintende/E. Diemer moved to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2023 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report –Copies of the treasurers report were circulated before the meeting. B. B-C/T. Lear moved to approve the bills as presented and the measure passed unanimously. The library is financially ahead of last year at this time. Approximately 98% of local tax revenue has been received. State funding was a bit more than expected.

Committee Reports:

Buildings and Equipment : Bids are coming in to clean the duct work at Hughes and other maintenance work.

Policy and Operation – Strategic Planning Committee: The Strategic Plan has been updated. A motion for approval by A. DeAngelo/J. Benintende. The motion passed unanimously. It will be posted on the Library website this week. Thank you to the committee and S. Lyons.

Fundraising – No report

Publicity & Community Relations: No report

Personnel: There is an opening on the board due to E. Diemer's resignation. The nominating committee hopes to meet in early January to name a successor.

Ad Hoc Committees:

Smithfields: - The new board member, D. Emin is hoping to teach some writing classes at the jail in the future.

PTL - None

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

S. Lyons gave an overview of the past year's work at the library. She offered thanks to her wonderful staff as well as the supportive board.

Adult Services Report – *A full copy had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.*

Hope Kuchinski has been named as head of Adult Services to replace Cheryl Brice. She begins in January.

The most popular program has been chair yoga. The person teaching the class is doing it for free!

Youth Report: *A full copy had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.*

Youth services has been extremely busy with successful programs. The last Teen program was the strongest to date.

The holiday crafts program, held on a weekend had over 60 attendees.

Old Business - None

New Business –E. Diemer has tendered his resignation from the board. It was reluctantly unanimously accepted.

T. Lear nominated A. DeAngelo to be board treasurer from this point forward. It was seconded by D. Migliacci with a unanimous board approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 am on a motion by A. DeAngelo/J. Benintende. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held via Zoom at 8:30 am on January 16, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Buzzelli-Clarke
Board Secretary