

**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**

1. At a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Monroe County Library System held on March 8, 2023, the meeting was called to order by Chair Calder at 5:02 p.m. Ms. LaPensee declared that a quorum was present.

Present: Catharine Calder, Chair; Rob Peven, Vice-Chair; Beth LaPensee, Secretary; Bernie Smith, Trustee; Rita Gordon, Trustee; and Nancy Bellaire, Director

Staff: Barbra Krueger; Amber Reed; Kellie Vining

A quorum being present, the Board proceeded to transact business.

2. Motion by Beth LaPensee, supported by Bernie Smith, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.
3. Motion by Rob Peven, supported by Rita Gordon, to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2023 meeting. Motion carried with Beth LaPensee abstaining.
4. Public Comment
Amber welcomed the board to Navarre and introduced Circulation Clerk, Kellie Vining. Amber then shared information about upcoming programs and partnerships with the Community Center, Oaks of Righteousness, YMCA, and Monroe's chapter of Therapy Dogs International. Kellie Vining updated the board on outreach projects including the community garden and an upcoming digital archives project for Orchard East. Discussion followed regarding the proposed Community Center/Navarre Library expansion project.
5. Board of Trustees Reorganization
Motion by Rob Peven, supported by Rita Gordon, to nominate Cathe Calder as Chair. There were no other nominations. Motion by Rob Peven, supported by Rita Gordon, to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Cathe Calder as Chair. Motion carried.
Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Beth LaPensee, to nominate Rob Peven as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations. Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Beth LaPensee, to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Rob Peven for Vice-Chair. Motion carried.
Motion by Rob Peven, supported by Rita Gordon to nominate Beth LaPensee for Secretary. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Calder moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Beth LaPensee as secretary. Supported by Bernie Smith. Motion carried.
Chair Calder will announce committee assignments by the next meeting.

6. Consent Agenda – Motion by Trustee LaPensee, supported by Trustee Smith, to accept the items on the consent agenda including the financial reports as presented, and place on file. Motion carried.
7. Committee Reports
 - Finance Committee** – Nancy Bellaire reported that we do not have our financial information for February. Our January 31 financial report shows that we have received about 23% of our expected revenue, and we have spent about 7% of our planned expenditures with 8% of the year behind us. We received \$53,457 in penal fines in February. Our average for February is \$89,986. Nancy also shared photocopies of the checks that were intercepted on their way to Baker & Taylor in Atlanta. PNC Bank is working with us to file the appropriate mail fraud report.
 - Facilities Committee** – Nancy Bellaire reported that during the rain/ice/wind storm, there were a couple of small leaks in the Ellis roof, which are being checked out.
 - Policy and Personnel Committee** – No meeting.
 - Technology Committee** – No meeting.
 - Woodlands Update** – The Woodlands Governing Board reviewed their annual audit at their last meeting.
 - Legislative Update** – Nancy Bellaire updated the board on Michigan’s 2023 Library Legislative Day. As reported last month, the event will take place in Lansing on Tuesday, April 25. Our bookmobile and bookmobile staff will participate in a display along with the festivities that day.
8. Unfinished Business – None.
9. New Business - Motion by Bernie Smith, supported by Beth LaPensee, to approve payment of the bills for the month ending January 31, 2023 in the amount of \$447,709.91. Motion carried.
Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Rob Peven, to award the spendable amount of the Mary Daume Scholarship, equally, to the three applicants.
Chair Calder said that she will email trustees with her committee appointments.
10. Barbra Krueger shared information that she received at a Chamber Koffee Klub regarding the “bike economy”, which brings a substantial amount of revenue to a community with the introduction of a bike trail. She also updated the board on expected donations from the Directions Credit Union and the Monroe Credit Union as well as a donation of 30 fishing poles that will become part of our Library of Things in future months. She also highlighted a “save the date” announcement in the board packet for the 2023 All Staff Training day.
11. Nancy Bellaire updated the board on the successful Black History Month Blues Series, a bonus Hoopla program funded through Woodlands, planning progress for the Library of Things, and complimentary notes sent to Youth Services Staffer Lori Goins, regarding a podcast on her Literacy on the Lawn program.

12. Board comments – The board thanked Amber and Kellie for their branch updates and complimented them on the work that they do in the community, commenting on how busy and active the branch is.

13. Public comment—none.

14. Announcements

Date of Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 12, @ 5 p.m. at the Erie Branch Library, 2065 Erie Rd., Erie, Michigan.

15. Adjournment

Motion by Rita Gordon, supported by Beth LaPensee to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 p.m.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth LaPensee, Secretary

Catharine Calder, Chair