

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 24, 2020  
Recorded virtual meeting

President Nick Ciampi called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

It was noted that the meeting was being held in compliance with the **Open Public Meetings Act**.

**Roll Call:**

Kevin McNeil	<i>present</i>	Nicholas Ciampa	<i>present</i>	Nabil Choueiri (NBC)	<i>excused</i>
Iris Kislin	<i>present</i>	Mayor Kramer	<i>present</i>	Edward Ward	<i>present</i>
Tom Lennon	<i>excused</i>	Agnes Kulu-Banya	<i>present</i>		
January Adams	<i>present</i>				

Nick stated that the virtual meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Nick motioned to open the meeting to public comment and Agnes seconded. All were in favor. There being no members of the public signed on, the meeting was closed to the public.

Agnes motioned to accept the minutes of the May 27, 2020 meeting. Ed seconded. Iris abstained but the rest were in favor.

**Director's Report:**

January presented the financial reports of the **Director's report** for the month of May. The financial reports were filed for audit.

January highlighted various aspects of the narrative section of her monthly report. She noted that:

- Curbside pickup service had started on June 15. It was going well.
- The library continued its efforts to support patrons with digital offerings.
- The Young Adult Librarian had held many virtual teen events.
- In addition, the Young Adult Librarian had been actively involved with the Teen Advisory group.
- Use of the library's digital services saw a 56% increase over May of 2019.
- January noted that earlier that day it had been announced that public libraries could re-open to the public on July 2. She expressed her deep concern for the safety of the staff and patrons, adding that she wanted to make sure that all precautions would be in place to protect everyone. Accordingly, she stated that the library would not open on July 2 but would continue curbside service until it re-opened to the public later in the month. Board members agreed that safety was a paramount concern and that just because the governor said the library could open on July 2 did not necessarily mean it should.

**President's Report:**

Nick read the following.

“Last month we were stalled in our efforts to negotiate the hoops necessary to acquire a two acre property from the B of E for the purpose of building a new Franklin Park branch. The County Clerk's office was closed, and required records were not available for our engineers to complete the subdivision application documents. Consensus at our May meeting indicated that we should proceed when conditions permit.

There is however, uncertainty regarding the level of our future funding. High unemployment might lead to reduced third quarter tax payments. Reduced property assessments can lead to a lower contribution from the Township. January has reviewed our operating budget and determined that a ten to twelve per cent cut in funding can be accommodated, without hindering our ability to operate three locations.

Now that the records room at the Clerk's office is accessible, the time is right to proceed, leading to the purchase of land, and construction of our own owned 5,000 square foot branch.

I would like a motion to restart the process with the Reynolds Group.”

**Correspondence and communications:**

“Township Library to Begin ‘Curbside Pickup’ of Library Materials,” *Franklin Reporter and Advocate*, June 15, 2020

Email inquiry from Jon Toth, Assistant Superintendent for Business, regarding the status of the library board's plans to purchase land from the Board of Education.

Email response from Nick explaining that he would discuss the matter at the June 24 Library Board meeting and give a more definitive response to Mr. Toth shortly after that.

Letter of resignation from Library Board member Tom Lennon.

**Old Business:**

Kevin motioned to have the Reynolds Group continue work on the subdivision of lot 37.02 in preparation of the Library Board purchasing the property. Iris seconded. A discussion of the pros and cons of proceeding with purchasing the land followed. In the end, it was decided that the board should proceed with the purchase.

Roll call vote:

Nicholas Ciampa	yes	Kevin McNeil	yes
Edward Ward	yes	Agnes Kula-Banya	yes
Iris Kislin	yes		

**New Business:**

Agnes asked for a status report on the Youth Center. The Mayor responded that there had been some delays that were indirectly related to the pandemic, but that the foundation had been poured and the steel was coming soon.

Iris motioned to accept with regret Tom Lennon's letter of resignation. Ed seconded and all were in favor. Iris will write to Tom and thank him for his service.

**The next meeting** will be August 26, 2020.

Ed motioned to adjourn the meeting and Iris seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

January Adams  
Director of Library Services