

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 22, 2023
Recorded virtual meeting

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Nick stated that the virtual 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>present</i>
Iris Kislin	<i>present</i>	Mayor Kramer	<i>present</i>	Amy Arsiwala	<i>present</i>
Tianna Gresham	<i>absent</i>	Agnes Kulu-Banya	<i>present</i>		
January Adams	<i>present</i>				

Nick opened the meeting to public comment. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to public comments.

Agnes motioned to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2023 meeting. NBC seconded and all were in favor.

Director's Report:

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

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

- The celebration of Iris Kislin's gift of A/V equipment to the Lewis Street library branch took place on March 5 at the Lewis Street branch. It was attended by trustees, family members and library staff. It was a special occasion for all.
- The library started accepting submissions to its Annual Online Teen Poetry Jam on March 21.
- The Adult Services Department held 37 adult programs that 413 people attended. The Youth Services Department held 34 in-person programs for 1,150 people.
- The opening of the Franklin Park branch has been delayed due to the re-scheduled delivery of the library's electrical panel. The good news is that we can still move the contents of the current location, along with the new shelving and furniture, into the new building so that part of the project will remain on time. The current branch will offer limited services, such as patrons picking up holds, using the copier and public computers, and having access to daily newspapers until the April 25.

President's Report:

None

Correspondence and communications:

"In Your Opinion: Head to the Library to be Astonished," by Elakkiya Elamaran, *Franklin Reporter & Advocate*, February 20, 2023

"Library's New Franklin Park Branch Ready for Opening," by Bill Bowman, *Franklin Reporter & Advocate*, March 5, 2023

Old Business:

January has continued to work on the gallery roof replacement. Measurements of the thickness of the panel framework have been obtained. She will arrange for a representative of Kalwall to talk at the next board meeting.

New Business:

January noted that during the March 21 township council meeting an incorrect figure was given for the increase in the library’s appropriation for 2023. This was reported in the *Franklin Reporter & Advocate* on March 22. She went on to explain that during the report on the township budget it was stated that the library’s appropriation for 2023 was \$4,448,589. This amount was correct, but the increase of \$703,159 over the 2022 appropriation was way off. The correct increase between the 2023 amount and the 2022 amount is \$158,675, which is a 3.67% increase, not the 18.09% increase that would have resulted from an increase of \$703,159.

She theorized that the \$703,159 amount was arrived at by subtracting the appropriation from **2021** of \$3,775,430 from the 2023 appropriation of \$4,478,589, instead of subtracting the appropriation from **2022** of \$4,319,914 from the **2023** appropriation of \$4,478,589. In short, 2021 was used instead of 2022 to arrive at the amount of the increase from last year.

2023 \$4,478,589	2023 \$4,478,589
<u>-2021 \$3,775,430</u>	<u>-2022 \$4,319,914</u>
\$ 703,159	\$ 158,675

She concluded by stating that she was concerned that this misinformation might cause taxpayers and council members to become unnecessarily upset.

Mayor Kramer advised January to contact Bob Vornlocker and Kathy Moody about this issue

Nick opened the meeting for public comment. There being no comments, the meeting was closed to public comments.

The next meeting will be April 26, 2023 via Zoom.

NBC motioned to adjourn, Kevin seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

January Adams
Director of Library Services