

Exeter Library Association Board Meeting
November 13, 2023
6:30 pm – In Person

I. Meeting Called to Order at 6:35 PM

Attendance: Executive Director Lizabeth Stavenski-Bell, Theresa Mowad, Laura Biancone, Todd Dierksheide, Christy Resh, Mike Bennethum

II. Approval of Minutes – September 11, 2023

Motion to accept September minutes, Christy Resh; Second, Todd Dierksheide. September minutes accepted.

III. Director's Report

Liz Stavenski-Bell reviewed her previously submitted written report. Of particular note: She met with the Exeter Township Supervisors as part of their budget planning process to speak about the work of the library. Preliminary indication is that the township will allocate \$300,000 for the library in 2024.

She asked the board for a brief executive session to discuss staff bonuses.

Motion to enter executive session, Laura Biancone; Second, Todd Dierksheide. Motion adopted. Entered executive session at 6:49 PM.

Motion to end executive session, Todd Dierksheide; second, Christie Resh. Motion adopted. Ended executive session at 6:56 PM.

Motion by Todd Dierksheide to allocate money from the General Fund for staff bonuses in the amounts proposed by the Executive Director. Motion adopted.

IV. Friends Report

Income from October's Fall Book and Bake sale was \$5,485.25. The Friends will host a holiday sale on December 1 and 2.

V. Treasurer's Report

Christy Resh reviewed her previously submitted written report.

VI. Presentation of the Bills

Motion to pay the October bills, Todd Dierksheide; Second, Laura Biancone. Motion adopted.

There having been no meeting in October due to the lack of a quorum and no treasurer's report in September due to the timing of the meeting, the following motions were also made:

Motion to pay the September bills, Laura Biancone; second, Todd Dierksheide. Motion adopted. Motion to pay the August bills, Todd Dierksheide; second, Laura Biancone. Motion adopted.

VII. County System Update: Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Advocacy: Mariel Jordan (Chair): No update
- b. Fundraising: Theresa Mowad (Chair): no report
- c. Property: Lizabeth Stavenski-Bell (Interim Chair) is working on securing a grant to pay for the upgrade to the library's camera security system.
- d. Finance: Christy Resh (Chair): no report
- e. Technology: Ibrahim Bangura (Chair): The board agreed that if a grant to pay for the camera security system cannot be identified by January, the Executive Director should move forward with the system upgrade, using money from the Bequest Fund.
- f. Policy: Mike Bennethum (Chair): The board will continue to table proposed updates to the Unattended Children Policy until all board members are present to discuss them.
- g. Search: Todd Dierksheide (Chair): No report

X. Strategic Plan Update: The plan has been forwarded to the County System.

XI. Unfinished Business: none

XII. New Business

The board discussed the Executive Director's proposal to upgrade the gates at the library entrance, to improve their efficiency as well as to enhance safety and accessibility for patrons entering the library. Todd Dierksheide made a motion to purchase a new security gate system for an amount not to exceed \$13,000, with the money taken from the Bequest Fund. Seconded by Laura Biancone. Motion adopted.

XIII. Training Opportunities

Two board members need to complete a training module before December 31. Laura Biancone will be participating in one training webinar.

XIV. Board Member Comment: Todd Dierksheide noted that typically the board does not meet in December unless necessary. The board agreed that if there are urgent action items, the President will announce a Zoom meeting at the date and time noted below. Otherwise, the next meeting of the board will be on January 8, 2024.

XV. Public Comment: none

XVI. Next Meeting: in needed, December 11, 2023, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

XVII. Motion to adjourn, Todd Dierksheide; second, Laura Biancone. Motion adopted. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

- Meeting notes taken by Mike Bennethum

