

EASTON AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday, November 14, 2022
3:00 pm.

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Easton Area Public Library was held on Monday, November 14, 2022. President Mrs. Walker called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Present: Mrs. Walker, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Long, Mr. Lake, Mrs. van Horne-Brett. Mrs. Ramirez-Luhrs was present via phone. , Mr. Reilly was absent. Also present Jennifer Long, Director and Sheila Wolff, Business Manager.

Interested Citizens: Judy Brunswick of Adult Skills Quest. Mrs. Brunswick reiterated her concerns from previous meetings and letter.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made to accept the consent agenda by Ms. Long and was seconded by Mr. Lake. By voice vote, all were in favor.

Communications: Mrs. Walker read a Thank you note from Sue Class, Friends of the Library volunteer of the year.

Reports on Executive Sessions: None.

Committee Reports: Mrs. Ramirez-Luhrs explained how the P & P Committee members are individually reviewing the policies in sections. Once they are done, they will meet and discuss.

Director's Report: Mrs. Long thanked the Friends of the Library for sponsoring the Masterworks concert. The Easton Area Cyber school's teachers, students and parents toured the youth department and met with Amber, Youth Services Coordinator. Amber will be working with the teachers to pull books and other resources to aid their education. The Library partnered with the Easton Book Festival and Lafayette College to host authors Emerald Garner and Monet Dunham of *Finding My Voice* for an author talk with the Diverse Voices book club. The Library also hosted authors of youth and young adult books during the festival where the children could meet them. We have been asked to serve on next year's planning committee. We are happy to report we have a Forks Township patron who has committed to a monthly donation through PayPal. This year's annual appeal letter will have a QR scan code. Lastly, Thank you to the Friends of the Library who work tirelessly throughout the year to raise money through their online book sales. This year's sale will end tonight and which has raised, so far, \$6,700 for the Library.

Old Business: None

New Business: Ms. Cardell reported on the Palmer Branch annual update. Palmer branch will meet the target re-opening date of Monday, November 21. The new carpet is almost completed. The children's area will now be moved to the back of the Library and the Large print books will be moved to the front. The Township fixed the roof and replaced some of the ceiling tiles and is also working on the AC unit. The township joint ventured with the Library for the security cameras and the new carpet. The Palmer staff was able to work some hours at the main library. Ms. Cardell was 1 of 21 selected to be interviewed for the PA Summer Library Showcase. She was interviewed about the 2021 Summer Reading Program. 2022 Summer Reading Program had 131 Adult participants which was a 87% increase over 2021, 42 teens, 68% increase and 324 children, 64% increase. We had 19 in person activates and 19 passive activities too. We made 21 Kindergarten ready prep kits, which were gone the same day. The Palmer branch is offering 2 book groups, the adult book group with

90 patrons and Forever young book group with 68 patrons. We are also starting a TicTok book discussion group. These are readers but not usually Library patrons, so the goal is to target a new group. For adults we have PALS, Palmer Adults Library Support for individuals with developmental learning needs, 30 minute Yoga and card making program. For the Young Adults, we have the teen writers program with 6-8 young writers, pop it candy and cupcake war programs. For the children, we continue bedtime story time, Spanish story time, and 4 other story times, *Who was* book group and the *I survived* book group, and author visits. We would like to look into purchasing a conference room divider, new toys and some new furniture with the Morris bequest. The township will install a water bottle refill station.

Mrs. Long reported on the strategic plan update. Jennifer asked David Belanger, strategic planner, to submit a proposal for the Library strategic planning project. Mr. Belanger is well known and respected in the Library community. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas to have the Library engage Mr. Belanger for the strategic planning as per his proposal and was seconded by Ms. Long. By voice vote, all were in favor. Mrs. Long updated the Board on communications with Forks Township. She and Mrs. Morrow will be meeting with Forks Township Parks and Recreation director on Thursday, November 17, to see how we can provide more Library services to the community.

Mr. Lake made a motion to adjourn at 4:00 pm. and was seconded by Mr. Thomas. By voice vote, all were in favor.

Next EAPL Board meeting: December 12, 2022

Next EASD Board meeting: not finalized at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wolff, Recording Secretary