

**INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY (IVPL)
Board of Trustees Meeting (BOT)
April 20, 2023**

The April BOT Meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Grande at 8:00am.

ATTENDANCE:

Present – Officers- Dr. Alexander Grande, President; Penny Price, V. President; Wendy Leshinskie, Secretary; Darren Johnson, Treasurer.

Board Members- Steven Boell, Doug Johnson, Suzi Leonard, Beth Styer, Betty Linko, Foundation of Friends (FOF) representative, and Margie Stern, Library Director.

Absent Members- Vivian Herman.

Audience- 25-30 people from the public

CONSENT AGENDA:

April Meeting **Minutes.** Dr. Grande- No additions or corrections.

Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements- Mr. Darren Johnson. One municipality's payment was received after March 31 otherwise the financial receipts and expenditures are on target for the quarter. Continual monitoring of the PPL electric charges which continue to rise.

Director's Report- Ms. Stern. Highlights in the report include: Jubilee Grant money from Plains Mennonite Church was used to purchase backpacks and items for children visiting the library who have sensory issues.

Hoopla costs continue to be monitored. Downloads have been limited to 6 items per person per month and it still costs IVPL over \$3000 per month to offer this service.

Effective June 1 people living in Bucks County will no longer have access to IVPL's Hoopla. (These municipalities do not contribute to the library's operating costs.)

Representative Malagari and an aide visited IVPL to discuss funding cuts. He will see if some more state funds can be allocated to public libraries.

360 tax returns were processed by AARP for 2023.

'StoryWalk' dedication in Alderfer Park, Harleysville is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 at 10:00am.

Lower Salford, Salford, Franconia, and Souderton municipalities read proclamations announcing National Library Week, April 24- 28, 2023.

Monthly Statistics- Numbers continue to rise in most areas. 2024 Statistics Report will not include the 2019 (pre-covid) numbers for comparisons.

Monthly Report- The May edition will focus on how the library is funded.

Motion was made by Mr. Boell with a second by Ms. Leshinskie to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous Approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Facilities- Ms. Leonard. The space utilization plan for the reuse of the Keystone section of the library has been completed and can be implemented at any time.

Items needing attention in the library are: a new water heater, carpets to be cleaned, minor repairs, and a solar light for the flagpole so the flag need not be taken in and out each day.

PPL energy audit was completed and substantial savings can be realized by changing to LED lighting (about \$66,800). PPL has a Direct Discount Grant for a \$10,000 rebate until June 1.

BOT will schedule a work session to discuss the property priorities outlined in the Property

Committee's MEP Report.

Foundation of Friends- Ms. Linko. The FOF is spearheading the Library Staff Appreciation Event on April 26 with treats and lunch.

The Donor Appreciation Event at the Rising Sun Inn has 55 attendance responses.

FOF is seeking volunteers to help with the Concert Sundaes food and ice cream on June 18.

Dinner In White tickets go on sale June 1 at a price of \$40 pp and \$70 per couple.

Junior Women's Club Herb Sale is happening now. See the IVPL website for ordering details and pick-up dates and times. Proceeds from this sale go to FOF.

Personnel- Dr. Grande. No report.

Strategic/Marketing Plan- Mr. Boell. Action requested on the committee's recommendation to appoint Michael Kane to provide a Marketing and Public Relations Strategy at a cost of \$3500. (Ongoing Marketing and Public Relations Support at \$1200 per month will be considered separately at a later date.)

Motion made by Mr. Boell with a second by Ms. Styer. Motion approved.

By-Laws Committee- Mr. Boell. The committee's main concern is that our By-Laws are in compliance with non-profit requirements (constantly changing) and the Pennsylvania State Library Code (never changing). Some questions concerning the FOF and BOT relationship, non-budgeted expenditure limits, and indemnification for board members will be directed to the library's solicitor to create a draft document for the BOT approval, probably sometime in autumn. It is recommended that this document should be reviewed every 2-3 years.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Stern. No business.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Stern. No business.

Public comment: There were between 25-30 members from the public in attendance at the meeting. The floor was opened for public comment at 8:47am by Dr. Grande. 7 people had the opportunity to address the Board for 3 minutes each on topics which mainly focused on a.) Support for the library and its policies, b.) Opposition to the content of specific graphic novels and LGBTQ and BLM children's books, c.) Perception that a "liberal agenda is being pushed" at the library with books and displays, d.) A separate area and/or age restrictions on specific books, and 3.) An offer to create a public committee with members from both sides of the issue to find a solution between those supporting the library and those with concerns about books' content. There were many people who did not have the opportunity to address the board this month due to the time limit stated in advance for the BOT meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15a on a motion and second by Mr. Boell and Ms. Styer.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Leshinskie

Next IVPL Board meeting: May 18, 2023 at 8:00am in the library's Community Room

Next Foundation of Friends: May 10, 2023 at 7:30am in the library's Community Room