

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

The July BOT Meeting was called to order by the president, Dr. Grande at 8:02am.

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Board Members**- Steven Boell; Doug Johnson; Suzi Leonard; Beth Styer; and Margie Stern, Library Director. Also in attendance were Bud Leister, Janelle Adams, Al Engle Foundation of Friends (FOF).

**Absent Members**- Vivian Herman.

**Audience**- People from the public

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

**Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements**- Mr. Darren Johnson. Second quarter payments from the municipalities have been received. We are halfway through the year with income and expenses being about half of the budgeted amounts.

**Director's Report**- Ms. Stern. Ms. Stern was one of three speakers on the topic of "Libraries Under Attack" at the Philanthropy Network which sparked information and library donations from the Mclean Contributionship and HealthSpark respectively. IVPL Librarians created 'Science Week' at the library with projects and programs for IVPL children and teens.

The Community Outreach newsletter was emailed in June with a total of 5,255 contacts a 51% open and a 6% click rate. Our Facebook page had 3,751 likes (+30) and 4,245 (+98) followers while Instagram had 1,133 followers (+22).

Programs: Pre-K- 2 programs in June (262 children, 178 adults). School Age- 10 programs in June (180 children, 86 adults). Teen- 7 program (29 teens). Self-directed Programs- 81 preschoolers, 339 school-age, and 84 teens participated in 9 programs. 495 adults attended 65 programs during June.

New: IVPL is participating in Explore Montco, a passport program encouraging families to visit libraries in Montgomery County. People visiting IVPL get a 'badge' for finding our Book Vending Machine or attending a program. This is the first year of this collaborative program.

Annual Appeal 2022-23: 846 gifts totaling \$98,556.16 YTD (last year's total was \$84,155.84!)

**Monthly Statistics**- 2023 statistics show patrons are reading books! It is sometimes difficult to keep up with the book requests. 2023 in-person visits, however, still remain

lower than the pre-covid levels.

**Monthly Report** now includes a new category, Non-Resident Patrons for non-Pennsylvania residents temporarily staying in our area who want access to our library. Cost is \$35 per person per year.

The motion was made by Mr. Boell with a second by Ms. Beth Styer to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous Approval.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Facilities-** Ms. Leonard. Painting is complete in the Reading Room and the Art Display Wall in the front hallway. The Community Room will be painted by the end of August. (Painting schedule is dependent on scheduled programs.)

Ms. Leonard met with Nick Custer for professional input on the restroom project. Estimates are pending on upgrading both facilities to meet ADA requirements. This improvement will require permits, architectural drawings, demolition, and extra downtime, materials, and labor.

A new group, the 'IVPL Educational Garden Committee' chaired by Pennsylvania Master Gardener, Grace Leister, is developing a plan for the exterior gardens. The goal is to create an educational and certified pollinator garden. The committee is organizing its own volunteer base, planning visuals about plants, and the cycles of the butterfly. The committee hopes to develop a presence on our website and Facebook page to promote this wonderful idea to the community.

A community Jigsaw Puzzle is being planned for a table in the Reading Room. Anyone can place pieces in the puzzle at any time and spend as much time as they like doing the puzzle.

**Foundation of Friends-** Mr. Leister. The 2023 FOF appeal has raised \$33,800 thus far from 235 donors. FOF membership is currently at 530 people. FOF packets with By-Laws, Policies, and Procedures are being organized with helpful information for new board members. The **2024 Beer Fest** committee in partnership with the Souderton-Telford Rotary Club is meeting and making plans. **Dinner In White** (DIW) plans are being finalized. Reminders that each BOT member is asked to donate a bottle of wine for the event's 'Wine Pull' and to give the wine to Nick. The FOF Board is challenging the BOT to provide a gift basket for the silent auction to see which board's basket yields the highest bid of the event. (Last year the FOF's Bourbon Basket made \$400 for the event.) The winner provides a full continental breakfast for members of the losing board. Landis Markets in Vernfield, Upper Salford is planning to celebrate the reopening of Shelly Road on August 5. FOF members will host a library table with coloring pages, free books for children, and handouts and information on the FOF and IVPL. It is an opportunity to create awareness in Upper Salford and perhaps welcome them back as a supporting library municipality.

**Personnel-** Dr. Grande. No report.

**Strategic/Marketing Plan-** Mr. Boell. Marketing is finalizing the best way to disseminate to the public small portions of the information included in the 5-page completed Value Statement.

**By-Laws Committee-** Mr. Boell. No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Ms. Stern. A Policy Workshop open to staff and the public will be held on August 23 at 6:30 for input on library policies.

There is no regular BOT meeting in August.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Dr. Grande. Due to non-attendance, Ms. Herman is being asked to resign her at-large position on the BOT. Motion made by Dr. Grande, seconded by Ms. Styer. Unanimous approval.

Health Insurance costs with the same carrier will be increased by 2.5% in 2024. Ms. Stern recommends retaining the same policy and carrier for 2024.

**Public comment:**

The question was asked if IVPL can help coordinate a library support campaign in preparation for the November elections. Ms. Stern stated a public library cannot involve itself in supporting or endorsing any political candidate nor distributing political literature.

The BOT and audience were reminded about the 'Christmas in July' book sale on July 22 with Christmas books and festive decorations celebrating the holiday highlighted that day. The August 19 book sale includes a 'Back to School' bag sale with \$5 per bag for books. The Religious section has been reorganized.

It was suggested that the new Garden Committee create a special spot for photos.

An audience member asked about volunteering at the library and what the needs are.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37a on a motion made by Mr. Boell and seconded by Ms. Styer. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Leshinskie, Secretary

**Next IVPL Board meeting:** September 21 at 8:00a in the Community Room.

A Policy Meeting is scheduled for August 23 at 6:30p in half of the Community Room.

**Next Foundation of Friends:** August 9 at 7:30 am in the Community Room