

Board of Trustees of the Upper Sandusky Community Library

Minutes

August 11, 2022

The Upper Sandusky Community Library Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, August 11, at 12:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room with the following members present: Ms. Jenny Romich, Ms. Amy Aldridge-Ritchey, Ms. Dianne Grafmiller, Ms. Laurie Scheck, Mr. Todd Leightey and Ms. Ann Kemerley. Mr. Brian Kimmel was absent. Director Kathleen Whitt was also present.

President Jenny Romich asked for public comments. Ms. Whitt submitted a letter that had been sent to the Board's attention from a member of the community. Ms. Romich read the letter aloud. In the letter, Ms. Allene North expressed her disappointment that the Board had made no objection to the proposed sale of the car wash property next door to be used as a drive-through convenience store with liquor sales. Hearing no further public comments, Ms. Romich asked if there were corrections or additions to the distributed minutes of the June meeting. Hearing none, Ms. Romich declared that the minutes stand as distributed.

Next on the agenda was a motion to ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Romich asked if there were any questions about the bills. Hearing none, the motion was made and seconded to ratify the payment of bills; in a roll call vote, all present approved the bills.

There was no old business.

Under new business, Ms. Whitt introduced Jerry Sedgwick, president of the Friends of the Library, who had asked to address the Board. Ms. Sedgwick said that the Friends had observed that with the expansion of library programs, there seemed to be a shortage of storage space in the library. The Friends have some materials (mostly Christmas decorations) in storage at the library, but they are currently keeping the gifts purchased for sale at the annual Santa's Secret Shop at the home of one of the members. They also feel that it would be useful to have more tables for use in the meeting room for events such as the book sale, but there doesn't seem to be room to keep these right now. The Friends now have 501(c)3 status and are planning to solicit donations from local charitable organizations; they would be interested in helping fund storage solutions for the library. The Board discussed several possible solutions, including reorganizing storage spaces and purchasing equipment such as movable shelving units.

Ms. Whitt then submitted the annual Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor. The motion to adopt the Resolution was moved and seconded; in a roll call vote, all present approved the motion.

In the Director's Report, Ms. Whitt reported that:

1. The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) issued their final estimates for the Public Library Fund (PLF) distributions for each county for Calendar Year 2022 (CY 2022). The original estimate for USCL was \$300,902.40; the new estimate is \$324,415.08 – an increase of \$23,512.68. Overall, ODT is now estimating the total CY 2022 PLF distribution will be \$482,717,137, which is \$39,598,729 (+ 8.9%) more than the original ODT certification issued in July 2021, and \$34,985,990 (+ 7.8%) more than the certification update issued in December 2021.

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2. The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted the July 2022 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution of \$47,277,348 — which is about \$3.1 million (+ 7.10%) above ODT’s original estimate that was issued in July 2021. This brings the 2022 Calendar Year-to-Date total to \$299,889,585.
3. The Ohio Department of Taxation has certified to Wyandot County the initial estimated Public Library Fund entitlement for calendar year 2023 of \$972,172.00. An updated entitlement estimate will be issued in December 2022.
4. On June 15, we received an \$8,000 check from the estate of Christina Nelson. We received \$15,000 from the estate in December 2021. We may receive a final payout from this bequest when the federal taxes have been paid in full, probably in the fall.
5. Programming for June and July included a visit from naturalist Chelsea Gottfried with salamanders and other aquatic animals that children could touch, FFA’s “Bringing the Farm to You” petting zoo, interactive viewings of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid” for children and “The Princess Bride” for adults, a paint party for kids in grades 4-12, topical presentations by Ashlie Payton on “There’s Something in the Water,” and more, ending with a Luau on July 26. The summer reading program was a success, with participation feeling much more “normal” than last year – we were busy, and happy to be so!
6. COSI has again made Learning Lunchbox science kits available free of charge to libraries to distribute to school-aged children. On August 8 we received 100 dinosaur-themed kits, to be handed out in any way we find appropriate. We are looking into programming to coordinate with the material presented, similar to the presentation from the Armstrong Air and Space Museum when we had the space-themed kits in 2020.
7. The Friends of the Library held their annual book sale August 3-6. They feel the sale was a success. Preliminary deposits show that they made about \$1,200.
8. The Wyandot County Budget Commission meeting to discuss distribution of 2023 Public Library Funds has been set for 10:00 a.m. on Monday, August 22, at First Citizens National Bank. The format is to be the same as in past years. This is a public meeting and any interested party may attend.

9. Memorial/Honor/Donations:

In memory of:

Corinne Newell

Paula J. Wurtsbaugh

Billy R. Francis

Donor(s):

David & Kelly Rowe

Henry & Michelle Teters

Philip Rowe

Ron Gottfried

Jill Blackburn & Simple Gift Dancers

Heather & Avery Heil

There were no Items Not on the Agenda.

Ms. Romich asked whether there were any additional items for discussion. Hearing none, the motion was made and seconded to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

President

Secretary