

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING  
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
July 12, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lexington Public Library was held in the Large Meeting Room of the Eastside Branch on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. Lynda Bebrowsky, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Board members present: Lynda Bebrowsky, Rania Belmadani, Ralph Coldiron, Casandra Hockenberry, Stephanie Nallia, Yajaira West, and Susan Wright. Advisory Board members present: Elizabeth Adams, Jennifer Bird-Pollan, Craig Cammack, DeLaine Bender, Alex Garcia, Shawntaye Hopkins, Louetta Hurst, Carly Muetterties, and Hunter Porter

Library staff present: Anne Donworth, Director of Marketing; Heather Dieffenbach, Executive Director; Karen King, Finance Officer; Christopher Oakford, Executive Assistant; Ashley Sipple-McGraw, Eastside Branch Manager, and Paige Smith, Development Manager

Others present: Rod Brotherton, Friends of the Library; Megan George, Stites and Harbison

Ms. Bebrowsky called the meeting to order.

Ms. Bebrowsky moved for approval of the minutes from the June 14, 2023 Board meeting. Mr. Coldiron seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Donworth gave the Development report. In June, the Foundation received a total of \$58,776 from 51 donors. In addition, Ms. Donworth and Ms. Smith had conversations with three potential major gift donors.

Mr. Brotherton, Chair of the Friends of the Library, gave the Friends report. He reminded the Board members that the Friends would be participating in the *Boozy Grown Up Book Fair* at Pivot Brewing on Sunday, July 16, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and he encouraged everyone to attend.

Ms. King reported on the Library's financial position through the month of May 2023. As of the end of May, the Library had total assets of \$21,542,000. General Fund revenues for May were \$2,356,000 and expenditures were \$1,192,000, leaving a bottom line of \$1,163,000. Year-to-date, revenues were \$17,916,000 and expenditures were \$14,398,000, not including the \$1,516,000 spent on the Marksbury Family Branch, leaving a bottom line of \$2,001,300. In the Materials Fund, revenues, year-to-date, were \$2,364,000 and expenditures were \$2,033,000. Investments totaled \$12,596,000 and debt totaled \$14,619,000.

There were two questions following Ms. King's report. Ms. Hockenberry asked about the future of DVDs in the LPL collection. Ms. Dieffenbach replied, saying that the format was gradually dying out because manufacturers were not making and releasing so many, preferring to stream content instead, although the format remained popular with patrons. In due course, therefore, DVDs would inevitably disappear from the collection.

Mr. Coldiron asked Ms. King if LPL should pay off debt, given the current high rate of interest. Ms. King agreed to investigate that option.

Ms. Dieffenbach presented the Director's report. She began by discussing two recent programs and commending the staff's work on them. First, the social worker intern initiative, and second, the Annual Pride Prom at Northside. Ms. Dieffenbach then handed over to Ms. Sipple-McGraw, who talked to the Board about the current work at the Eastside branch.

Ms. Bebrowsky presented the Chair's report. She confirmed that the date of the next meeting as Wednesday, August 9, 2023, at the Northside branch, and she welcomed Ms. West as the new Secretary to the Board of Trustees. She then thanked Ms. Wright, who was rotating off the Board, for her many years of dedicated service to Lexington Public Library and presented her with a small commemorative plaque.

The Building and Property Committee did not meet in July.

Ms. Hockenberry presented the Board Development report. Over the course of the past month, the committee had focused on completing the Executive Director's annual performance evaluation. Ms. Hockenberry and other members of the committee had interviewed senior staff to elicit their views on Ms. Dieffenbach's performance, and had asked all Board members to fill out an online survey. There was 100 percent participation and Ms. Dieffenbach received an overall score of 3.8 out of 4.

Ms. Nallia presented the Budget and Finance Committee Report. She brought forward one motion: that the Board approve the financial statements as presented by Ms. King earlier in the meeting. Ms. Wright seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Nallia also confirmed that she and Ms. Bebrowsky had reviewed the checks and procurement card statements for June with one question and no issues.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Signed: Yajaira West  
Yajaira West, Secretary