

BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING  
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
September 13, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lexington Public Library was held in the Board Room of the Central Library on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. Ralph Coldiron, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order.

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

Library staff present: AnnaMarie Cornett, Chief of Staff; Anne Donworth, Director of Development, Marketing, and Communications; Heather Dieffenbach, Executive Director; Tonya Head, Deputy Director; Kevin Imai, HR Director; Karen King, Finance Officer; Elizabeth Neher, Development Associate; Christopher Oakford, Executive Assistant; Rob Parmley, Director of Operations; Summer Russell, Data Analyst, Rob Serrate, Finance Officer-designate; and Paige Smith, Development Manager

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

Mr. Coldiron called the meeting to order.

Mr. Coldiron moved for approval of the minutes from the August 9, 2023 Board meeting. Ms. Nallia seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Donworth gave the Development report. She began by explaining that she had now been with the Foundation for 10 years and provided a brief summary of how things had changed in that time. In FY14, the total amount raised was \$21,190 from 289 donors, the largest single donation being \$1,000; in 2020, the amount raised was \$982,000 from 624 donors; and in FY23, the Foundation raised \$823,551 from 906 donors, with a further \$931,000 pledged, as well as a further \$1 million from the American Rescue Act Funds from LFUCG. In comparison, Ms. Donworth shared that the Foundation received a total of \$818,414.80 from 65 donors in the month of August alone. The Foundation team conducted several tours of the Marksbury building and made final preparations for the Undesign the Redline exhibit kick-off at Central on September 22.

Mr. Brotherton, Chair of the Friends of the Library, gave the Friends report. The Chevy Chase fundraiser in memory of Mr. Russell Salyer raised over \$4,000, and Mr. Brotherton thanked Ms. Donworth and Ms. Paige Smith for their help in facilitating the event. Online sales were up and the buy-one-get-one-free sale had ended. Following the

success of the event with Pivot Brewing, the Friends had agreed to participate in a similar sale at Rockhouse Brewing on November 5. Mr. Brotherton concluded by informing the Board that the Friends annual sale was due to start on October 13 and run until October 28.

Ms. Debbie Smith from MCM gave the annual audit report, in which LPL received the highest possible rating. Ms. Smith confirmed that the Lexington Public Library Foundation was included in the LPL audit. Mr. Coldiron then asked for a motion for the Board to accept the report. Ms. Nallia seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

At this point, Ms. Hockenberry joined the meeting.

Ms. King gave the financial statement. As of the end of July, the Library had total assets of \$21,920,000 and total liabilities of \$2,675,000, leaving a fund balance of \$19,244,000. General Fund revenues for July were \$1,550,000 and expenditures were \$1,519,000 plus \$23,000 spent on Marksbury, leaving a bottom line of \$7,300. In the Materials Fund, revenues, year-to-date, were \$227,000 and expenditures were \$336,000. Investments totaled \$12,665,000 and debt totaled \$14,528,000.

Ms. Dieffenbach presented the Director's report. She began by introducing the new finance officer, Mr. Rob Serrate, to the Board and by confirming that Ms. King would retire in October. Next, she informed the Board of some work by LPL staff over the past month. In particular, she mentioned the staff presentation at the Kentucky Refugees Ministries to new immigrants and events that staff at the Beaumont branch held for community members with disabilities, including children suffering from anxiety. Ms. Dieffenbach then handed over to Ms. Cornett, who talked to the Board about the strategic plan and the start of BerryDunn's community engagement meetings.

Mr. Coldiron presented the Chair's report. He brought forward a motion asking the Board to approve the nomination of Heather Sunseri to the Carnegie Center Board. Ms. Nallia seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Building and Property and Board Development committees did not meet in September.

Ms. Nallia presented the Budget and Finance Committee Report. On behalf of the committee, she brought forward two motions. First, for the Board to approve the financial statements as presented by Ms. King earlier in the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Belmadani and approved unanimously. Second, for the Board to approve adding Mr. Serrate's name to the list of employees who can sign checks and other financial documents on behalf of LPL. Seconded by Ms. Bird-Pollan and passed unanimously.

Ms. Nallia also confirmed that she and Ms. Bebrowsky had reviewed the checks and procurement card statements for August with several questions and no issues.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Yajaira West, Secretary