

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HARRISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
May 25, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Harrison County Public Library was held on May 25, 2023. The meeting took place at the Lanesville branch of Harrison County Public Library, 7340 E. Pennington Street N.E., Lanesville, IN. Members of the Board of Trustees present: Kathy Crimans, President; Sharon Mathes, Vice President; Barbara Smith, Secretary; Derrick Grigsby, Treasurer; Jon Howerton, and Suetta Tingler. Also present: Alisa Burch, Director; Diana Lasky, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary and Leah Porter of Blue Dot Harrison County.

Kathy Crimans called the regular meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and announced that a quorum was present.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no input from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Sharon Mathes made a motion to approve the consent agenda for the May 25, 2023, meeting. Barbara Smith seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Barbara Smith made a motion to approve the agenda for the May 25, 2023, meeting. Jon Howerton seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Suetta Tingler made a motion to approve the claims and financial reports for April 2023. Sharon Mathes seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS Presented by Alisa Burch, Director

Jessica Gonzalez was hired to work part-time at the Elizabeth Branch to replace Autumn Milliner at the Grade 3 pay rate.

Alisa informed the board of current issues with the ballasts of light fixtures at the Lanesville and Palmyra branch that are now obsolete. A solution will be presented in the future.

Samantha Lawyer, the Harrison County winner of the Art Unplugged Regional High School Juried Art Competition, took first place in the finalist show on May 20. Samantha is the recipient of a \$2,500 scholarship from the Arts Alliance of Southern Indiana.

The library branches will host book related dioramas from the Arts Alliance of Southern Indiana. The miniature scenes were made with the intent to encourage students and families to engage with non-fiction books and stories and will be picked up on May 30.

The Summer Reading Challenge for all ages started on May 22 and runs through July 31. Three hundred and twenty-five people had registered as of 5 p.m. on May 24:

- 191 = 2023 Youth Summer Challenge for Preschool (Age2) – 6th Grade
- 35 = 2023 Teen Summer Challenge for 7th – 12th Grade
- 23 = Book Babies for Age 0 -1 (newborn to 23 months)
- 76 = 2023 Adult Summer Challenge

Diana Lasky thanked the board and director for giving the opportunity for staff to learn, refresh and grow at the Southern Regional Conference in New Albany. She believes that attending trainings provides time to collaborate with staff and other libraries and that it helps employees to gain new perspectives, ideas and help with problem solving. Alisa stated that she will be in contact with the local movie theater to discuss a showing of Luke Renner’s documentary “*What Lies Inside – Healing in the Face of Trauma.*” Renner was the keynote speaker at the conference and presented the topic of *Shattering Myths: A Fresh Perspective on Trauma and Recovery.*

BUSINESS

Alisa updated the board on the research into accessibility at the Frederick Porter Griffin Center. There is a meeting with architect John Hawkins at 2:30 p.m. on June 2 to discuss options. The board briefly discussed access and the current issues of the building with an emphasis on solving access.

The Lanesville renovation to a makerspace will begin once the building supplies have been received at an undetermined date in the future. The branch staff is currently weeding and rearranging the book collection so there will be no delay when construction starts. Collaboration will take place between the library and the makerspace at Lifelong Learning.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Jon Howerton said, “Thank you for having the Estate Planning Program and I enjoyed coming.” He felt that it was good to have programs like that for adults. Jon was intrigued by Trevor’s idea of using AI for finding books. (Alisa was able to respond that *Ask Dewey* [Dewey the Dog] is now live and at the bottom of each page of the library website.)

Barbara Smith remarked, “I’m impressed with the number of people that have signed up for summer reading already. That’s a great number, especially age 2 to 6th grade.”

Suetta Tingler stated, “These are exciting times for the library,” and “Diana, thank you for the little personal touches; we notice them.”

Barbara Smith appreciated the comments on the conference and stated, "It is a time that you get a chance to hear from others...what they are doing and showcase what you are doing ...and learn different techniques from other libraries. I'm glad that we had so many go."

ADJOURNMENT

Jon Howerton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:29 p.m. Barbara Smith seconded the motion and it was approved by a voice vote.

The Board will meet again at 3:00 p.m. on June 29, 2023, for the regular Board meeting at the Elizabeth branch.

Barbara Smith
Secretary, HCPL Board of Trustees

6/29/23
Date

