

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library
Board of Trustees**

Call to Order: A meeting of the Alpena County Library Board of Trustees was called to order on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 4:30 pm by President Joseph Garber.

Present:

Board of Trustees: Joseph Garber, Dustin Budd, Traci Collins, Julie Byrnes

Excused: Quentin Meek

Staff: Christina Markowski, Carmen Grubaugh

Approval of Agenda: There were no additions to the agenda.

Review and Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Budd with support from Byrnes to accept the minutes from the December 20, 2024 meeting with *New Business: (I.) Holiday Closure Proposal* being changed to specify the library being closed the Saturday before Easter. The motion passed.

Financial Reports: The financial reports were reviewed by Markowski.

Review and Approval of Bills: It was moved by Collins and supported by Byrnes that the bills as presented be approved. The motion passed.

Director and Leadership Team Report: The written report was reviewed. Markowski stated programming was being scheduled for the year. She noted Sienna Thiem had many crafting programs for adults and she would include monthly puppet shows for children's programming.

Friends of the Library Report: Markowski stated the bookstore sold the most books around Christmas and Blizzard of Books was being moved to March. She noted the Friends were replacing the missing book for the "Two Kids on a Bench" statue.

Public Comment:

Gordon Silkworth, Alpena, stated a library employee addressed some audience members as Christo-fascists at the June 2024 board meeting and he notified the County Board of Commissioners as the library held a meeting with him, but had not responded to his emails.

Julia Silkworth, Maple Ridge, noted all public comments should be directed to the board and not to library staff or to the audience as was the case with the Christo-fascists comment made during the June 2024 board meeting.

Nonie Muller, no county given, expressed concerns about the board not enforcing public comment policy as there were no consequences for exclamations, applause, and a speaker directing comments towards the audience at a prior board meeting.

Old Business:

A. Director Search: Garber stated Mortimore agreed to modify his contract to postpone the director

search until March 1, 2025 and he intended to invite Mortimore to the February 2025 board meeting

New Business:

A. 2025 Board Meeting Dates: It was moved by Budd with support from Byrnes to hold board meetings the third Wednesday of every month at 4:00 pm for the 2025 year. The motion passed.

B. Elevator Contract: Garber recommended this item be moved to the February 2025 agenda in order to compare estimates between Great Lakes and Otis.

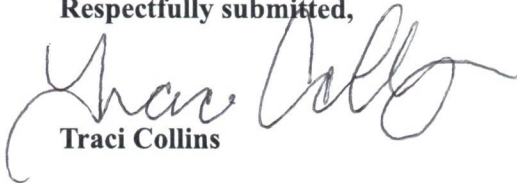
C. Payroll: Markowski recommended the library continue using QuickBooks for payroll through May 2025. She suggested simplifying library staff's paid time off (PTO) to vacation and sick so it could be tracked using QuickBooks. Garber noted any changes to PTO would require modifying the policy first.

(Markowski recorded as Grubaugh exited at 4:57 pm.)

Board Training with Anne and Claire (45 minute session): The board underwent training on the legalities, procedures, and policies of serving as members on the Board of Trustees.


Adjournment: It was moved by Budd with support from Byrnes to adjourn the meeting. Garber declared the meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Traci Collins

Secretary



Carmen Grubaugh

Recording Secretary