

**Minutes of a Special 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 Monday, August 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. by President Joseph Garber.

**Present:**

Board of Trustees: Joseph Garber, Dustin Budd, Michelle Cornish, Lauren Mantlo, Quintin Meek  
Staff: Jessica Luther, Beth DeCaire

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

**Public Comment:**

Sara Grochowski, Alpena resident, thanked the board of trustees for their service and asked the Friends of the Library to fund the necessary equipment to record and post meetings online.

Cindy Johnson, Alpena and Mayor of the City of Alpena, offered congratulations on the library's operating millage passing and noted continued support for the library from many in the community.

Bruce Maxwell, Ossineke resident, stated many in the community support the library and the board of trustees. He expressed the right to read should be protected.

**Old Business:**

- A. Director Search:** It was moved by Meek with support from Mantlo to obtain quotes from at least two independent consultants with the intent of hiring a consultant to search for the new library director. The motion passed. Cornish questioned if the consultant's contract might guarantee the new library director remain employed at the library for a specified period of time.
- B. Collection Development Policy Update:** Garber requested that the trustees review the policy draft sent by Foster Swift, an age-appropriate guidelines document, and the response document from the attorney for the August 21st regular meeting.

**New Business:**

- A. Nicolet Credit Card:** Garber recommended canceling a Nicolet credit card in Debra Greenacre's name. It was moved by Cornish and supported by Budd. The motion passed.
- B. Update of Signatory Permissions:** As interim director, Garber proposed Luther be given signatory permission to sign checks. It was moved by Mantlo and supported by Meek. The motion passed.
- C. Additional Duty Stipends:** The personnel committee will meet to discuss the time period of appointment and parameters to adequately compensate the interim director and business manager for assuming additional responsibilities and will present recommendations at the August 21st regular meeting.
- D. Request for Legal Counsel:** There was no motion as the board decided to utilize their own time

to conduct research into funding options to cover legal expenses should the county commissioners pursue removing them as trustees. The funding would come from grants not affiliated with the library or derived from the library's operating budget potentially managed by a third party or kept separate in a general ledger.

**Other:** Luther asked for the library to close early at 1:00 p.m. on August 30, 2024 for staff development provided by Hope Shores Alliance for no cost. It was moved by Mantlo and supported by Meek. The motion passed. Cornish was pleased the library's operating millage passed and noted the success of the book sale the Friends of the Library held August 7 -10, 2024.

**Adjournment:** Garber declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Michelle Cornish**

**Secretary**

**Carmen Grubaugh**

**Recording Secretary**