

Adams County Library System
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, February 27, 2025
Gettysburg

Board members present: Jessica Boyer, Vice President; Kara Boehne-Miele, Secretary; Rita Rice, Treasurer; Anna-Mae Kobbe (via Zoom), Julie Ramsey, Kathleen Pratt, Rob Williams, David Kushner

Associate Trustees: Lisa Shower, Jill Schumann, Kathleen Heidecker (via Zoom), Kelly Kampstra

Trustees Emeriti: Mary Sue Cline & Ray Schwartz

Also present: Miranda Wisor, Executive Director; Brandt Ensor, Assistant Executive Director; Jeff Cann, Finance Director; Erica Duffy, Development Director

Also present: Linda Joswick (Gettysburg FOL), Sharon Lentzner & Dave Lentzner (Littlestown Friends), Marge Keller and Josie Pelc, Harbaugh~Thomas Foundation

Guests present: Lizzy Baldwin, York-Adams District Consultant; Sara Edmiston, Public Services Director; Annette DeFuso, Technical Services Director; Robyn Woods, Youth Services Coordinator

Excused: Heidi Gillis, Sue Whaley, Dorothy Puhl, Karen Arthur

Call to Order of the Board of Trustees Meeting: 7:00 pm.

Approval of Board Minutes – 12.5.24 – Jessica asked for a motion to approve minutes. A motion was made with a second from the floor. All were in favor and the board minutes were approved.

Committee Reports: Jessica asked if there were any questions regarding any of the committee notes. She said that going forward we will not be going through each individual committee notes.

Kathleen Pratt requested that the board members contribute to the Google Doc for the Marketing AD HOC committee, as there is good information to be shared.

Executive Director's Report: Report in packet. Miranda introduced the York-Adams District Consultant, Lizzy Baldwin.

Miranda shared some of the statistics from the state report. There has been increased usage of digital resources.

Talking Points are in the board packet.

Upcoming Networking Events/Opportunities: March 21st is the Volunteer Event at The Lodges. April 6th to the 12th is National Library Week.

Acceptance of Grant Funds Electronic Vote: Prior to the Board meeting, the Board considered a motion made via email by President Heidi Gillis related to our partnership with The Center for Youth and Community Development. Heidi moved to accept \$53,879 in grant funding from The Center for Youth and Community Development for collaborative work over the next four years in providing Digital Literacy training and Parent/Caregiver Education programs which will be invoiced in one lump sum that is broken down as follows: \$14,178 for year one; \$27,000 for year two; \$4,701 for year three; and \$8,000 for year four. Jessica seconded and the vote was unanimously approved.

The vote was conducted via email in order to meet the 24-hour requirement for such a vote, and because of the current concern about uncertainty of federal funds. It is recorded here as part of February's meeting.

Financial Review: Jeff reviewed the December 2024 and January 2025 Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Statements.

Friends Groups Reports: Linda Joswick, President of the Friends of the Library, remarked that they are receiving lots of books in the garage. She reported their Bookstore Manager has retired. They are looking for another Bookstore Manager.

Harbaugh~Thomas Foundation: Marge reported that monies they have are only to be used solely for paying their bills.

Littlestown Friends: Sharon Lentzner, President of the Littlestown Friends, remarked that they made 417 quarts of soup! In May, they will be setting up a booth at the Farmer's Market and giving books to children.

Gettysburg Branch and Administration Update/Challenges: Sara Edmiston, Public Services Director spoke about her department. Sara shared some of the many duties the Public Services personnel provides. She said there are 22 adult programs scheduled every month!

With the amount of programming offered each month, we could use another meeting room. Sometimes there are room scheduling conflicts within the Gettysburg Library departments. We need more room.

Annette DeFuso, Technical Services Director, spoke about what her department does. She explained there are 8 to 10 selectors and her department coordinates the orders. Everything is cataloged here and sent out to the branches.

Robyn Woods, Youth Services Coordinator, says Dungeons and Dragons is exceptionally popular and they want to play it for longer periods of time and more frequently. A volunteer runs the program. Will the volunteer want to be here more? Will there be a room available? There are parking issues. How do we handle that?

Old Business: Letter of Intent - Motion to distribute solicitation of letter of intent to those who have expressed an interest in purchasing the building as well as posting the solicitation to our website indefinitely and running an ad in the *Gettysburg Times*. Rita motioned and David seconded. There was some discussion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

New Business: Employee Handbook – Motion from the AD/OP Committee to accept the updated Employee Handbook. Kara seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Board Fund – Motion from the Finance Committee for the use of up to \$2,000 from the Board Fund to cover the cost of exhibit passes and transportation for 10 staff members to attend the ALA Exhibit Hall at the ALA Conference in Philadelphia. Julie seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Finance Committee – Motion to move the remaining funds in the PNC Money Market Account to the Vanguard Federal Money Market (VMFXX) at E*Trade to avoid a 0.6% management fee. Kathleen Pratt seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

National Library Week Cookie Delivery – National Library Week is April 6th to the 12th and Kara volunteered to make cookies to be distributed to all the staff as a thank you.

Board Education – Capital Campaign Training – David Kushner gave a short tutorial about this subject.

Capital Campaign Update – A potential grant for Campaign Consultant description is in the board packet for review.

Mission Moment/History Moment: Ray had a **Library Moment** and said of the library that it is a “treasury house of humanity” and we have the custodianship to fulfill that.

History Moment: Excerpted from *A Library for Adams County* by Dorothy Speicher Murray – Pages 11 & 12:

Until 1954 this original building served Adams County as its library. It now became obvious that more space would be needed to meet the requirements of a growing population. It was apparent, too, that the two sources of funding – philanthropy of individuals and organizations and annual contributions from county and state revenues – would not be enough to meet the expectations of the *Fifties* with the library that the *Forties* had conceived and brought forth.

The Fabulous Forties, when nothing seemed impossible after defeating enemies on two fronts, when Dr. Spock taught us how to rear brilliant, well-adjusted children without stress, when the Drs. Kinsey revealed how we behaved behind closed doors, when we had penicillin and DDT to rid ourselves of disease and pests. For this decade, conceiving and giving birth to a library had seemed such a small challenge.

The confident Fifties: when President Eisenhower drew the eyes of the world once again to the little town of Gettysburg, when we had tranquilizers to keep us cool and McCarthy to hunt out communists, a “better” bomb to keep us safe, and Elvis to bring us a new kind of music and prepare us for the Beatles.

This decade, innocent of the effects of its solutions, set the course for the rest of the century. Decisions made in the *Forties* and *Fifties*, including turning a prison into a library for Adams County, would determine, to extent, the future of the library.

The first clouds to darken the confidence of the *Fifties* drifted in when funds to meet operating expenses were nowhere in sight. State aid was late in arriving and private donations were decreasing. Even newly appointed librarian Mary Wilson’s usual optimism faltered. Financial Committee Chairman L. Curtis Long declared, “If we want more books, we’ve got to get more money,” Mrs. Wilson is quoted as saying that she must have no less than \$100 a month to spend on current adult books if the library was to give the people the service they have learned to expect. With book loans topping 20,000 monthly for the second month in a row, a *Gettysburg Times* headline read, “Business at the library is so good it’s a problem.”

Public Comment Period: No public attended.

It was noted that Kara presented a cookie baking program in East Berlin. Everyone loved the program and it received good reviews.

Adjournment: Jessica motioned to adjourn. David seconded the motion. Adjournment was at 8:10 pm.

Recorded by:
Wanda Reigle

The next Board Meeting will be April 24, 2025 at East Berlin at 7 pm.