

THE TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY  
100 W. Dover St.  
Easton, MD 21601  
Minutes of the Board Meeting  
April 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Susan Sherman at 5:00 pm. Meeting held at the Easton Library.

Attendees: Susan Sherman, Charles Yonkers, Andrew Thaler, Robert Forloney, Sue Regier, Mary Pellicano, Sandy Boyd, Alexis Roiter, Mia Mazzeo & Vivi Morris, Student Liaisons to the Board, Director, Dana Newman, Scotti Oliver, Assistant Director, Shauna Beulah, St. Michaels Branch Manager, Represented the TCFL. Judy Campbell, TCFL staff taking notes.

Excused: Terry Moore, Becky Amaral, Ron Engle, Pete Leshner, Talbot County Council Liaison and Don Abbatiello, Town of Easton

**Action Items:**

- Board members voted on and approved the February 20, 2025 minutes.
- Board members voted on and approved the Treasurer's Report: Income and Expense Statement, Quarterly report & Statement of Activities reports.
- Board members voted on and approved the Medicare Retiree HRA policy.
- Board members voted on and approved the Resolution of Members of Stockholders – for the USDA Rural Grant.
- Reminder that the date for the joint social gathering of the three boards (Trustees, Foundation and Friends) was re-scheduled and will be on Tuesday, April 22nd at The Ivy from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m

**Review of the February 20, 2025, Minutes:** Susan Sherman asked the board if there were any changes or corrections. Hearing none, asked for a motion to approve with Charles Yonkers moving and Robert Forloney seconding. All were in favor with none opposed. The motion carried.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Vote on Medicare Retiree HRA policy:**

Dana shared the policy which has been revised since the last board meeting in February. Additions and edits are in yellow and were added by the recommendation of an attorney that reviewed the policy. Susan Sherman made a motion to approve the Medicare Retiree HRA policy with Robert Forloney moving and Sandy Boyd seconding. All approved and none opposed. The motion carried.

### **Resolution of Members of Stockholders – for the USDA Rural Grant**

Dana shared the letter and explained that the grant does not exceed \$70,000. Susan Sherman made a motion to give permission to Dana to submit the resolution and all voted unanimously to proceed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mary Pellicano had sent out her report for board review. Earlier, the finance committee reviewed the Income and Expense report, Quarterly report & Statement of Activities and approved the documents. To note:

- As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, we were at the end of the third quarter of the fiscal year and we have received about 66% of budgeted revenue.
- On the expense side, we are at 59% of what has been budgeted, which is just about where we were last year at this time.

Susan Sherman made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report with Charles Yonkers moving and Sue Regier seconding. All approved and none opposed. The motion carried.

**President's Report**-Susan Sherman shared that there will be a live broadcast of the Federal Court hearing regarding IMLS funding after the board meeting.

**Teen Liaison**-The American Girl Book Club has now concluded. They had 12 kids participating. We have increased the number that can sign up for STEAM Camp from 20 to 24 participants.

**County Council Representative's Report**- Pete Leshar was not present and did not have a report.

**Easton Town Council Representative's Report** –Don Abbatiello was not present and did not have a report.

**Librarian's Report**-Dana added a few highlights to her report:

- The mixer for the three boards is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm at the Ivy on Dover Street. This will be a great chance for the Trustees, Foundation and the Friends to have some social time. A few library staff will also be there.

County Council budget:

- There will be two County Council public hearings that all are urged to attend. On Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, one meeting is at 2PM at the Bradley Meeting Room at the County Courthouse on 11 N. Washington Street and the second one is at 7PM at the Easton High School cafeteria on 723 Mecklenburg Ave.
- We are proposed to receive \$1,978,320.00 from the county for operating (we asked for \$86,412 in an additional supplemental request and are proposed to receive 56%
- of that amount or \$49,438.00). We are also proposed to receive our full capital outlay request of \$129,683.00 which includes \$100,000 for the St. Michaels Opening Day collection.
- Dana reviewed some of the slides found here:

[https://talbot-md.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=4&clip\\_id=1295&meta\\_id=108820](https://talbot-md.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=4&clip_id=1295&meta_id=108820)

- Dana also shared that in addition to the slides, we are waiting to hear if library staff will receive the same proposed 2.5% COLA and 1% merit raise. The library did ask that we be included in whatever COLA and merits that were proposed for County staff. As she received the details, Dana will share what has been proposed for FY26.

**Diversity and Inclusion Committee-** Charles Yonkers had sent out his report included in these minutes.

**Nominating Committee:** Robert had nothing to report.

**Friends' Report-** Sue Regier had sent out her report included in these minutes.

**Foundation Report-** Sue Regier had sent out her report included in these minutes.

The board meeting officially closed at 5:46 p.m.

The second half of the meeting was Board Training:

6:00 p.m./ALA Lecture Series: "What Comes Next: Libraries, Advocacy, and Public Policy" – A Conversation with ALA President Cindy Hohl.

Brief discussion on concerns facing libraries/TCFL to follow.

**Reminder: Our next meeting will be on Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Easton.**

Respectfully submitted, Katie Dodds with assistance from Judy Campbell