



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES: March 27, 2025

### **CALL TO ORDER FOR BOARD MEETING - Board of Trustees**

A Board of Trustees meeting of the Peru Public Library was held on Thursday, March 27, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM and was presided over by President Alison Paul.

*As Regine Brindle was absent, Leslie Murphy was appointed as secretary pro tem for this meeting.*

### **ATTENDEES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bryan Maggart, Regina McDowell, Stacy Mize, Leslie Murphy, Alison Paul, and Gennell Taylor

MEMBER APOLOGIES: Regine Brindle

STAFF PRESENT: Director- Maryann Farnham and Assistant Director- Michelle Spangler

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Approval of February and Special Meeting Minutes are postponed until the April Meeting due to the absence of Secretary Brindle.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Review of the financial statements, claims, and bank statements.

Motion to accept the financial statements, claims, and bank statements was made by Murphy.

Motion seconded by Taylor.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- President Trump signed an executive order to reduce the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to "statutory functions" thus eliminating many components and functions. This will eliminate federal funding and grants to state library organizations.
  - This will have a direct negative impact on several services that our library uses. These services include: Evergreen Indiana, InfoExpress, Indiana Digital Library Consortium, Interlibrary Loan, Office of Library Development, and INSPIRE.
  - The Indiana Library Federation response to this executive order is included in the Board Pack.

- Update on the Lavengood Estate: The auction for the parcels of farmland is still planned for June. The estate property is being contested by a family member, so the sale of this property is on hold for the moment.
- The Non-Resident Card Fee Committee will be meeting on Thursday, April 3 at 6:00. This committee consists of Taylor, Mize, and Paul.
- The term for the City Council Appointment to the Board is up this year. Regina McDowell is their current appointment and is asking to be reappointed. Farnham and McDowell will attend the City Council meeting on April 7th at 6:00 pm.
- ReDiscover Downtown Peru awarded the library a grant for a 50/50 match for the windows being replaced on the Children's Floor. We will be reimbursed \$5,000.
- Farnham obtained information on digitizing the microfilm collection. This will be discussed further under New Business.
- Discussion on Live Streaming Library Board Meetings, which is not required of public libraries as of now. Information provided by Sylvia Watson, counsel for the state library, is included in the Board Pack.
- A copy of the 2024 Library Statistics can be found in the Board Pack. The number of library visits and our program numbers are up from the previous year. Our circulation numbers and resident users are down a little from 2023.
- Renovation
  - Children's Room Windows- Harris Glass plans to start the window replacement soon. It is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2025.

## OLD BUSINESS

None

## NEW BUSINESS

- The Clay Township Trustee reached out to the library about the possibility of purchasing non-resident library cards.
- Discussion about potentially digitizing our microfilm collection through Advantage Archives. The years 2020-2023 could be microfilmed for \$2,850, but for microfilm+digitization of these years it would cost \$5,986.56. They could also digitize our current microfilm reels for \$195 a reel. Discussion about beginning to slowly digitize our collection as our funds allow, possibly starting with the older microfilms. The Miller-Fetter Book Funds could finance this endeavor.
  - Motion to digitize and microfilm 2020-2023 as well as begin digitizing one of the older past periodicals made by Paul.
  - Motion seconded by Taylor.
  - Motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion about purchasing other databases for library patrons to use. These databases include:
  - **Ancestry.com**-Costs \$1,816 a year and is only able to be used in the library, with reduced functions.
  - **Newspapers.com**-Costs \$6,150 a year and can only be accessed in the library building.
  - **Creativebug.com**-Is being dismantled because of Joann Fabrics going out of business. Patrons will have access to crafts.com, which is a similar product, through Hoopla.

**There being no further business on the agenda, the meeting was adjourned by President Paul at 7:49 PM.**

**MINUTES PREPARED BY: Michelle Spangler, Assistant Director**

**MINUTES REVIEWED BY: Leslie Murphy, Secretary Pro Tem**

**SECRETARY APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

(Signature and Date)

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**Leslie Murphy - Peru Public Library Board of Trustees Secretary Pro Tem**