

*Board of Trustees of the Upper Sandusky Community Library*

*Minutes*

*March 10, 2022*

The Upper Sandusky Community Library Board of Trustees convened on Thursday, March 10, at 12:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room with the following members present: Ms. Dianne Grafmiller, Ms. Amy Aldridge-Ritchey, Ms. Laurie Scheck, Mr. Brian Kimmel and Ms. Ann Kemerley. Ms. Jenny Romich and Mr. Todd Leightey were absent. Director Kathleen Whitt and Brian Hemminger of the *Daily Chief-Union* were also present, as were members of the community Mr. Eric Goodman and Mr. Ahmad Al-Salameh.

Vice-President Dianne Grafmiller asked for public comments. Hearing none, Ms. Grafmiller asked if there were corrections or additions to the distributed minutes of the January meeting. Hearing none, Ms. Grafmiller declared that the minutes stand as distributed.

Next on the agenda was a motion to ratify the payment of the bills. Ms. Grafmiller asked if there were any questions about the bills. Ms. Scheck asked about payments to Gale and Midwest Tapes, as she didn't remember noticing them before. Ms. Whitt replied that these are vendors from which the library buys books and audiobooks. Hearing no further questions, the motion was made and seconded to ratify the payment of bills; in a roll call vote, all present approved the bills.

Under old business, Mr. Kimmel said that he had completed the online process to file for 501(c)3 status for the Friends of the Library. He said that they will receive a packet in the mail confirming this status and allowing them to receive donations from organizations who require 501(c)3 status for grant recipients. This will need to be communicated to potential donors. At the end of the year, the Friends will receive a postcard notifying them to submit their year-end report. Mr. Kimmel and accountant Sarah Pahl can assist the Friends' treasurer with this if needed.

Under new business, Mr. Eric Goodman told the Board of his plans to sell the car wash which is next door to the library. Mr. Al-Salameh hopes to buy the property and use it for a convenience store and drive-through. He plans to continue selling gasoline as well. Mr. Al-Salameh has a liquor license in other counties where he has other businesses, so would not need to apply for one in Wyandot County in order to sell beer, wine and alcohol at this location.

After Mr. Goodman and Mr. Al-Salameh left, the Board discussed the issue briefly, but decided that there is no action to be taken until after the prospective sale is concluded.

The next item of business was consideration of a quote from Bee Safe to install two additional security cameras to cover the north and south exterior ends of the library, as well as adding memory to allow longer retention of video capture (up to 10 days) for security purposes. The motion was made and seconded to accept the quote; in a roll call vote, all present approved the motion. The Board also asked Ms. Whitt to check with the Prosecutor's Office whether the video footage from the cameras is considered a public record, which would be released subject to a public records request.

Next Ms. Whitt informed the Board that she had begun investigating the process required to receive bids for the elevator upgrade. She has met with Wyandot County Prosecutor Doug

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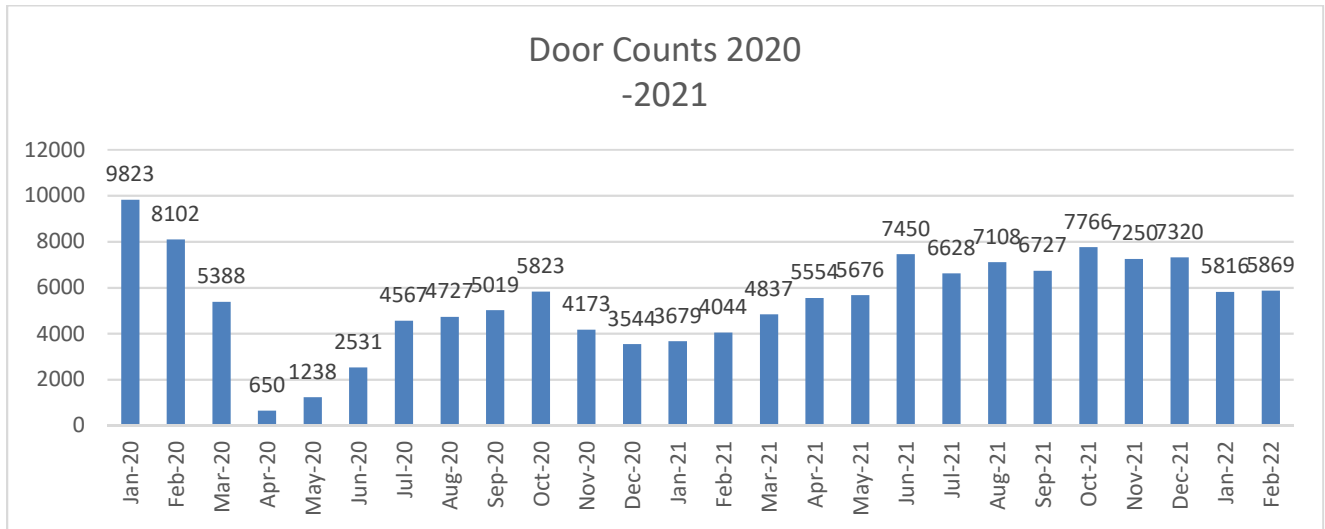
Rowland, who suggested the library work with an elevator architect who could help with the specifications for the upgrade and review the bids received. The Board suggested that this project would be a good fit for a grant from the Upper Fantasy of Light grant. The deadline to apply for a grant is May 1.

Ms. Whitt then said that she was also looking into estimates to upgrade the outdoor sign to a digital one that could be updated remotely by computer. Other grants might be available to help with this effort, which would likely be over \$20,000. A solution to help staff with changing the reader board in the meantime would be to recruit students from the STEAMPunks or other groups to earn community service hours.

The last item on the agenda was consideration of a resolution honoring Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine for her role in helping make the Dolly Parton Imagination Library available to all Ohio children birth to age five. It was moved and seconded to adopt the resolution; all present approved adoption of the resolution, which is appended at the end of these minutes.

In the Director's Report, Ms. Whitt reported that:

1. The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted the February 2022 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution of \$44,713,322 – which is \$4.15 million (+10.24%) above ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2021; and \$4 million (+10.08%) more than ODT's updated estimate issued in December 2021. State revenues continue their trend of exceeding projections. According to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), overall state tax receipts for the month of January came in almost \$236 million above estimates. So far, state Fiscal Year 2022 tax collections are up \$816.4 million (+5.5%) above estimates.
2. The Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT) posted the March 2022 Public Library Fund (PLF) distribution of \$33,551,415 – which is \$4.6 million (+ 16%) above ODT's original estimate that was issued in July 2021. State revenues continue their trend of exceeding projections. According to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), overall state tax receipts for the month of February came in \$264.2 million (+ 16.1%) above estimates. So far, State Fiscal Year 2022 tax collections are up over \$1 billion (+ 6.5%) above estimates.
3. The virtual public meeting option available last year because of the pandemic is back temporarily with the recent passage of House Bill (HB) 51. On Feb. 17, Gov. DeWine signed HB 51 and it took effect immediately, providing temporary authority for members of a public body (including library boards of trustees) to meet by means of teleconference or video conference. This provides the same flexibility that was authorized early in the pandemic, but ended in June 2021. Also, this allows boards to have hybrid meetings as well, but the public must still be able to watch or listen to the meeting. The only difference is that board members don't have to be physically present in the room to be considered "in-person" for purposes of a quorum or voting. This flexibility is temporary and will expire on July 1, 2022.
4. Visitor door counts history: 2021 shows slow recovery over 2020, although numbers still show a significant decrease from 2019.



5. On January 19 Taste of the Town featured Elaine Boes of Cheers2U with a demonstration and tasting of a new gumbo dish which she plans to feature later this year.
6. We had to close early several evenings in late January and cancel or reschedule programming due to staff COVID illness which resulted in several other staff members also having to quarantine. The affected staff members have recovered, and we have returned to normal operating hours and programming.
7. The library was also closed on February 3-4 due to freezing rain and snow, which caused the sheriff to issue a snow emergency and made driving hazardous for staff and patrons.
8. On February 16 Deputies Flick and Mulholland of the Wyandot County Sheriff’s Department K9 team brought their canine teammates Ace and Bristol to the library for an introduction and demonstration.
9. The Reel Trivia Quizbowl scheduled for January 27 was rescheduled and took place on February 24. The freezing rain kept some prospective contestants away, but others were not deterred. About 12 people competed in teams to win a gift card and the honor of being featured on our Face Book page with the “Ugly Trophy.”
10. On February 28, Debbie from Neumeister’s Candy Shop presented a white chocolate demonstration in Nothing But Chocolate.
11. March programming will include the monthly Craft Party featuring a painting class and a Craft Supply Swap at the end of the month, as well as a demonstration from Don Tomasso’s Italian Kitchen for Taste of the Town.
12. Memorial/Honor/Donations:

**In memory of:**

Nephew  
 Jacob David Ralph  
 Margaret Amert

**Donor(s):**

Mary Wines  
 Larry & Angie Franz  
 Lee & Cindy Constien  
 David & Angie Schwab

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Mark E. Powell

Feller Family  
Herman Logsdon Family  
Troy & Rebecca Reynolds  
Ann & Alan Richards  
Lauren & Mike Bush  
Fran & David Boucher  
Sue & Dick Marsh, Paul & Terri Logsdon  
Rochelle, Elaina & Elizabeth Wolber  
Sue Thompson  
Sharon Huffman  
Jim & Cindy, Kay & Dale, Brian & Lisa,  
MaryBeth & Chris, Nancy Hill  
Rose Whisler  
Nick & Rhoda Sayre  
Leslie & Neil Powell  
Roth & Bacon Attorneys  
Sandra DeWall  
Teresa Logsdon  
Chris Shumaker  
Jennifer & Gary Lullis  
Joyce Wyatt  
Van & Vicki Orians  
Maria Perini, Sue & Mike Rergeroh  
Fred & Donna Gohlke  
Patricia Green  
Leanne & Patrick Smith  
James Federici  
Greta Diggs & Family

Patricia Wolfe

There were no Items Not on the Agenda.

Ms. Grafmiller asked whether there were any additional items for discussion. Hearing none, the motion was made and seconded to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

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President

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Secretary

UPPER SANDUSKY COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
RESOLUTION TO HONOR FRAN DEWINE

Brian Kimmel moved with a second by Dianne Grafmiller to adopt a resolution to recognize and commend Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine for distinguished contributions to promote early childhood literacy.

WHEREAS, Fran DeWine established the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library in 2019—in partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library—in order to send a free book every month to Ohio children from birth to age five; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeWine partnered with Ohio's public libraries and other community organizations to expand the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library to all 88 counties in Ohio; and WHEREAS, Mrs. DeWine was instrumental in enrolling more than 309,000 children into the program, including 754 of children in Wyandot County; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeWine ensured all children between birth and age five, regardless of where they live in Ohio, are eligible to be enrolled in the Ohio Governor's Imagination Library; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeWine continues to recognize the value of public libraries and the role they play in supporting early childhood education; and

FURTHER, that Mrs. DeWine shares our library's goal of ensuring every child experiences the joy of reading and enters kindergarten prepared for success.

Therefore, be it resolved on this 10th day of March 2022 that the Board of Trustees of the Upper Sandusky Community Library formally commends and gratefully acknowledges Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine for her lasting contributions to early childhood literacy in our community and across the state.

Jennifer Romich, Chair  
2022 Board of Trustees  
Upper Sandusky Community Library