

MEETING MINUTES  
Hillsdale Community Library Board of Trustees  
September 12, 2024

- I. Call to Order: 5:03pm
- II. Roll Call
  - A. Present: George Allen (President), Rebekah Dobski (Library Director), Laura Negus (Secretary), Joshua Paladino (Vice President), Stephanie Stockford (Trustee). Excused: Karen Hill (Trustee).
  - B. Visitors to the meeting: Sara Yacks, Brianna Crall, Lynette Filppula
- III. Approval of [Agenda](#)
  - A. Stockford moved to accept the meeting agenda as presented. Paladino seconded; the motion carried 4-0.
- IV. Approval of Minutes - [Meeting of August 8, 2024](#). Negus moved to accept minutes as presented. Stockford seconded; the motion carried 4-0.
- V. Visitor Comments - No comments
- VI. Director's Report
  - A. Various comments from director Dobski:
    1. A patron expressed frustration that some public computers at the library are labeled as not working every time this patron visits the library. Dobski confirmed that this is frequently true. Though which computers are out of order sometimes changes, it is typically the oldest ones. Dobski spoke with Brandon at IT about the issue; he said they set the budget and schedule for the year regarding all city computers and when they are changed out. Dobski confirmed to the board that at no time does demand exceed supply of computers with patrons to the library, even with some outages. At the time of the meeting there were 8 total computers and 3 were out of order. The board discussed the possibility of simply removing old computers that do not work to give a better impression to the patrons. Dobski will investigate this matter.
    2. HCL is launching a new 1000 Books Before Kindergarten initiative and partnering with both Jonesville and North Adams libraries so that they can pool funding. At the time of the meeting HCL had 6 or 7 children already signed up.
    3. The new non-fiction picture book shelf is circulating very well.
    4. Circulation overall dipped after the start of school, but statistics are otherwise normal.

5. Little Bookworms continues to grow in popularity with new faces and increasing numbers.
6. After school Bingo has successfully launched for the older elementary and teenage children meeting every Thursday. Good feedback and attendance so far.
7. Dobski's Conversation Camp for Library Leaders conference on 9/4 and 9/5 was very helpful, particularly the conversations she was able to have with older, seasoned library directors.

- B. [Balance Sheet](#) - Dobski is not sure about the (300.00) listed in Accounts Payable; last month was approximately 8,000.00 (positive). Allen asked Dobski to please check with the city about that line.
- C. [Revenue and Expenditure Report](#)- Dobski pointed out that the revenue line ending -673.000 for \$10 was for the sale of some old library chairs. Paladino asked did the city pay to resurface the HCL parking lot? Dobski answered that she was not sure; the city did not contact her about it. Allen asked Dobski for more specific information on expense lines ending -802.000 Technical Services and -850.000 Telephone.

VII. Communications

A. Friends of the Library

1. The Friends collaborated last month with HCL to provide a prize for CASA's purse bingo fundraiser.

VIII. Old Business

A. Township Contracts

1. Dobski provided the Hillsdale Township contract signature; this contract was unchanged from prior agreement with Hillsdale Township. Paladino moved to sign the contract as presented. Stockford seconded the motion. In discussion, Paladino asked if Dobski could please find out the penal fine breakdown between Hillsdale City, Hillsdale Township, and Jefferson Township. Motion passed 4-0.

B. Patron Confidentiality Policy

1. Dobski provided a more abbreviated policy than last month's sample, tailored to HCL. She is confident this concrete policy will help staff communicate more clearly with patrons when the topic arises. Stockford moved to accept the policy as presented. Negus seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0; the policy will now be sent to the city attorney for review.

IX. New Business - no new business

- X. Board Comments - Allen asked Dobski for any building issues updates. Dobski brought to the board's attention a broken window in the children's room. Video footage did not show any foul play that Dobski could detect. DPS sent a person to check security and

reported that the break does not pose a security risk. G & G Glass are coming to fix the window. Paladino asked about a police report, and there is no movement in that direction at this time. Regarding the doors, Camden Dice came to look at the doors and is putting together a quote. Elias McConnell of Hillsdale Handyman connected HCL with a door specialist and Dobski is in early communication with him as well.

- XI. Adjournment- Stockford moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 pm. Paladino seconded; the motion carried 4-0.