

Minutes of the Meeting of the
Lafayette Public Library Board of Control

June 17, 2024

Recordings of all meetings can be found on the Library Board of Control page of the Lafayette Public Library website.

The regular meeting of the Lafayette Public Library Board of Control was held in the meeting room on the 2nd floor of the Main Library at 301 West Congress Street on June 17, 2024. Daniel Kelly, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

I. Roll Call and Invocation

Board Members Present: Daniel Kelly, Board President; Stephanie Armbruster, Board Vice President; Ella Arsement; Erasto Padron

Board Members Absent: James Thomas; Robert Judge, Allan Moore

Other Staff Present: Danny Gillane, Interim Library Director; Nancy Hebert, Administrative Assistant

The invocation was led by Daniel Kelly.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Daniel Kelly led the board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2024 Regular Board Meeting was made by Ella Arsement and seconded by Stephanie Armbruster.

Yeas: Kelly, Armbruster, Arsement, Padron

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Thomas, Judge, Moore

The motion was carried.

IV. Comments from the Library Board

Stephanie Armbruster asked that the Board consider Father's Day when creating the schedule for next year's Board meetings.

It was clarified that the out-of-parish cards were never intended to generate revenue. In FY22/23 and FY23/24, LPL collected \$20,800.00 in out-of-parish card fees.

In 2021, a legal opinion was issued by Assistant City-Parish Attorney Mike Hebert stating:

The Board has ultimate authority over programming

The Lafayette Parish Library Board of Control is the ultimate authority for establishing Lafayette Parish Library programming, but the Board of Control may delegate portions of the authority to the Library Director. The scope of that delegation is solely within the authority of the Board of Control, and it can be established, modified, or withdrawn in whole or part as the Board of Control may see fit.

From the Lafayette Parish Code of Ordinances:

The Board shall have authority to establish rules and regulations for its own government and that of the Library and/or its branches not inconsistent with law and to elect and employ assistant librarians and other employees and to fix their salaries and compensation.

V. Director's Report and Comments

Summer Reading Kickoff was held June 1, 2024. This was a big success and there were over 2200 people in attendance. Parents thanked staff for the quantity and variety of activities available.

Library Director and Operations Manager met with Mayor-President Boulet and financial staff concerning the proposed FY24/25 budget.

The library has a new website. Design of the website was done by library staff.

Moving forward, discards will be introduced to the Board as those that are low use and those that are being replaced or just discarded because they are damaged. The discard list for AV or magazines will be sent to LCG's Property department.

The library is currently working with Civil Service to rate applicants for vacant Librarian I and II positions.

VI. Facilities Update & Financial Report

In FY23/24, the library has collected 13.3M and has spent 7.3M.

The bid opening for the South Regional Library Renovation was held on June 13, 2024. One bid was received from Thompson Brothers Construction and it was under the estimated cost. The bid had to be rejected because of an insufficient corporate resolution.

Design Development for the North Regional Library Renovation project has been received and reviewed. Comments have been sent to the Architect and the library is awaiting the Civil Engineering plans before moving forward.

Land for the Northeast Library has been purchased and grass cutting services have begun.

The Main stairwell glass panel is expected this week.

South Regional had additional roof leaks reported. Operations Manager has filed a warranty claim.

East Regional roof leaks over the vending area and the staff work area were investigated with a Johns Manville Manufacturer representative. Some work will be covered by a warranty and some work will be covered by the owner. ERL also had storm damage, and fascia was lost. Operations Manager is awaiting recommendation by the roofer on how to address the issue while maintaining existing warranty. The Library is waiting to see if FEMA will pay for storm damages.

West Regional had window leaks on the north storefront window system. A water test was conducted June 13, 2024 and there is a possible entry point at the joints above the windows.

VII. New Business

A. Library Book Discards

A motion for the library to discard 2,694 books having been out of use for over a year due to the books being superseded, obsolete, unused, or otherwise unnecessary was made by Ella Arsement and seconded by Daniel Kelly.

Yeas: Kelly, Armbruster, Arsement, Padron
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Thomas, Judge, Moore

The motion was carried.

B. Director's Search Update

The Board decided not to extend the Director search. The Director's Search Committee Chair will schedule a meeting at a later date.

C. Library Cards

A motion that any non-restricted card issued to a minor prior to May 28, 2024 would become a restricted card as of August 7, 2024 was made by Ella Arsement and seconded by Stephanie Armbruster.

Aaron Chance, Lynette Mejia, and Cara Chance commented.

Yeas: Kelly, Armbruster, Arsement, Padron
Nays: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Thomas, Judge, Moore

The motion was carried.

VIII. Announcements

- A. Reminder that the next Library Board meeting (which is optional) will be Monday, July 15, 2024.
- B. Reminder that yearly ethics training and sexual harassment training must be completed before December 31, 2024.

IX. Comments from the public on any other library matter not on this agenda

George Armbruster III, Lynette Mejia, Margaret Oelkers, and Aaron Chance commented.

X. Closing Prayer, Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danny Gillane, Secretary