

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

October 21, 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 October 21, 2024. Daniel Kelly, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

I. Roll Call and Invocation

Board Members Present: Daniel Kelly, Board President; Stephanie Armbruster, Board Vice President; Robert Judge; Ella Arsement; Allan Moore; Rena Bradley

Board Members Absent: Erasto Padron

Other Staff Present: Danny Gillane, Library Director; Larry Angelle, Library Operations Manager; Dawn Williams, Assistant 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. Comments from the Library Board

Ella Arsement provided an update on the Northeast Library Committee. The public can access information on the library website under Northeast Library Information & Updates.

On October 3, 2024, the Committee accepted a survey for the library program and space needed for the Northeast Library as presented by 720 Design. This survey can be found at the top of the library website page and will close November 30, 2024.

On October 17, 2024, Maureen Arndt with 720 Design spoke with the committee about the upcoming open house and focus groups and provided an update on progress. Open house will be held November 6, 2024 from 6-8 PM. Consuela Gaines, Alton Trahan, and AB Rubin have been assigned to attend the open house. On November 7, focus groups will involve government leaders, community leaders, school leaders, and a possible fourth group involving students.

IV. Facilities Update

Minor work has begun at the South Regional Library with exterior electrical fixture and lighting upgrades. Major work will start in November in the meeting room area of the building. This area will be blocked off from public use during the renovation.

The roof replacement at the South Regional Library is pending final review of LCG departments prior to being sent out for bid.

Architect is working on the Construction Document Phase of the North Regional Library renovation project.

Operations Manager has coordinated with consultant Maureen Arndt with 720 Design, Inc. and Ziler Architects to address any committee needs. Operations Manager has attended committee meetings and aided in survey drafting, review, and distribution.

V. Financial Report

In FY 23/24, the library has collected 14.1M and spent 11.3M. In October of 2023, revenues were 12.9M and expenses were 10.4M.

VI. Director's Report

Library Director and Operations Manager attended Fall Administrative Librarians' Conference on October 4, 2024. Director has attended Bayouland and all Northeast Library Committee meetings.

Library is searching for a temporary location for the North Regional Library when renovations begin.

Library Director met with new Board member, Rena Bradley and also with Councilman Richard.

East Regional Library and South Regional Library will be closed on Election Day, November 5th. Drive-thru window service will be available.

Director announced staff changes and vacancies. Outreach positions are being filled and the library is closer to beginning to restore Bookmobile services.

Daniel Kelly welcomed new Assistant Director Dawn Williams.

VII. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting was made by Ella Arsement and seconded by Daniel Kelly.

Yeas: Kelly, Armbruster, Judge, Arsement, Moore, Bradley

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Padron

The motion carried.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A motion was made by Daniel Kelly to move forward with driveway-parking lot work to connect to Apollo Road and seconded by Robert Judge.

Yeas: Kelly, Armbruster, Judge, Arsement, Moore, Bradley

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Padron

The motion carried.

IX. New Business

A. Library Calendar

A motion was made by Stephanie Armbruster to accept the 2025 Board Meeting Calendar as presented and was seconded by Ella Arsement.

Yeas: Kelly, Armbruster, Judge, Arsement, Moore, Bradley

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Padron

The motion carried.

B. Election of Officers

A nomination was made by Stephanie Armbruster to elect Daniel Kelly as Board President. This was seconded by Ella Arsement.

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

The nomination carried.

A nomination was made by Daniel Kelly to elect Allan Moore as Board Vice-President. This was seconded by Robert Judge.

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

The nomination carried.

C. Vehicle Allowance

A motion to allow the Assistant Director and Operations Manager to utilize the Vehicle Allowance Program was made by Stephanie Armbruster and seconded by Rena Bradley.

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

The motion carried.

D. Main Library

A motion to approve the library to request the Parish Council amend the budget to move 1M in the capital fund to replace refurbished elevators in the Main Library was made by Stephanie Armbruster and seconded by Robert Judge.

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

The motion carried.

E. Collection Development Policy

A motion to accept changes to the Collection Development Policy as presented was made by Robert Judge. This was seconded by Stephanie Armbruster.

Stuart Breaux suggested that Lafayette be added into the alphabetical list of communities.

Robert Judge made a motion to amend the original motion to include the word Lafayette into the alphabetical list of communities. This was seconded by Stephanie Armbruster.

Rena Bradley expressed a desire to keep the racial and ethnic group breakdown in the policy.

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

The motion carried.

The vote on the original motion to accept the changes to the Collection Development as presented with the addition of the word Lafayette into the alphabetical list of communities was as follows:

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

The motion carried.

It was requested that the library website be updated to include demographic information.

F. Bylaws

A motion to change the language of the Bylaws in Article 9 to read “These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by at least a 2/3 majority vote of the membership of the Board.” was made by Robert Judge and seconded by Ella Arsement.

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

The motion carried.

X. Announcements

- A. Reminder that the next Library Board meeting will be Monday, November 18, 2024.
- B. Reminder that yearly ethics training and sexual harassment training must be completed before December 31, 2024.

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

Lynette Mejia, Melany Champagne, and Mary Guercio commented.

XII. Closing Prayer, Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danny Gillane, Secretary