

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

19 June 2023

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 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Main Library at 301 West Congress Street on 19 June 2023. James Thomas Vice President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

**I. Roll Call and Invocation**

Board Members Present: James Thomas, Board Vice President; Stephanie Armbruster; David Pitre; Daniel Kelly, Ella Arsement

Board Members Absent: Robert Judge, Erasto Padron

Other Staff Present: Danny Gillane, Library Director; Sarah Monroe, Assistant Director

The invocation was led by David Pitre.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

James Thomas led the board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Staff Recognition**

Victoria Coleman was recognized by the Board for going above and beyond her job duties.

**IV. Approval of Minutes of the April and May 2023 Meetings**

The motion made by Armbruster and seconded by Pitre was voted on as follows:

Yeas: Thomas, Armbruster, Pitre, Kelly, Arsement

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Judge, Padron

Lynette Mejia commented on the May 2023 minutes.

**V. Comments from the Library Board**

## **VI. Director's Report and Comments**

The director mentioned having been at work on finding land for the northeast library and on efforts to restore service of the electric vehicle charging stations at West Regional Library and that he would be attending the annual conference of the American Library Association. He also mentioned Summer Reading Kickoff. The director spoke of civility in the library.

## **VII. Assistant Director's Report and Comments**

Recent staff changes include:

- Kristin Foreman, Shaelyn Calvey, Dante Saracino, and Chloe Moreau were all hired as LTA Is.
- Sonya Jones was hired as the Accounting Specialist.
- We are still in the process of filling the following positions: Librarian I, Librarian II, LTA I, Director's Executive Secretary, and Library Community Relations Specialist.

Summer Reading Kickoff was a huge success! We had over 2,000 people come out for face painting, balloon animals, fun jumps, magic shows, and more. So far, we've had 2,187 patrons sign up for the 100 Days of Reading Summer Challenge with almost 7,000 days logged. The Challenge runs through September 8th, so there's still plenty of time to sign up and earn prizes.

The Main Library is once again partnering with Second Harvest Food Bank to offer the Summer Feeding program. Children ages 3 to 18 can receive a free snack Monday-Friday between 3:00-4:00pm through August 11 in the Craft Room on the first floor.

Finally, I attended the Friends of the Library Board Meeting as well as various Summer Reading Kickoff and Early Literacy Initiative meetings.

## **VIII. Facilities Update & Financial Report**

Main Library Roof Replacement Project is complete.

Library revenue is up slightly from 2022. Operational costs are down slightly from this time 2022.

## **IX. New Business**

A. Library Book Discards March—May 2023.

A motion was made by Stephanie Armbruster to discard 3,186 library books. Motion was seconded by Ella Arsement.

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

#### B. Setting Millage Rates

After Board discussion., Stephanie Armbruster made a motion to set the library millage rates at 1.84 and 2.91. Ella Arsement seconded the motion.

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

#### C. Northeast Library Land

After Board discussion, James Thomas made a motion to authorize the library director to engage in discussions with the Lafayette Parish School Board to finalize a proposal for the sale and purchase of property for a northeast library and to perform any acts necessary to do so. Motion was seconded by Ella Arsement.

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

Lynette Mejia, Tehmi Chassion, Kerry Williams commented.

#### D. Executive Session

Stephanie Armbruster made a motion, seconded by David Pitre, to enter executive session to discuss an administrative personnel decision. Attorney Paige Beyt and Library Director Danny Gillane participated in the executive session.

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

Stephanie Armbruster made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by David Pitre.

Yeas: Thomas, Armbruster, Pitre, Kelly, Arsement

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Judge, Padron

Stephanie Armbruster made a motion to accept the director's personnel action.  
David Pitre seconded.

Yeas: Thomas, Armbruster, Pitre, Kelly, Arsement

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Judge, Padron

**X. Announcements**

A. Reminder that the next Library Board meeting will be Monday 21 August 2023.

B. Reminder that yearly ethics training and sexual harassment training must be completed before 31 December 2023.

Stephanie Armbruster made a motion not to have the optional July Board meeting.  
David Pitre seconded.

Yeas: Thomas, Armbruster, Pitre, Kelly, Arsement

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Judge, Padron

**XI. Comments from the public on any Library business which is not an agenda item.**

Flossie Turner, Aaron Chance, Amanda Anderson and Lynette Mejia gave public comments.

**XII. Closing Prayer, Adjournment**

Daniel Kelly led the Board in a closing prayer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Danny Gillane, Secretary