

**HOWELL CARNEGIE DISTRICT LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
July 11, 2023**

President Kathryn Tuck called the regular meeting of the Howell Carnegie District Library to order at 7:00 pm.

Bob Ellis moved to approve the agenda as presented. Lyn Hewitt supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

Members present: Jennifer Earl, Bob Ellis, Lyn Hewitt, Tony Kandt, Susan Pominville, Maria Stuart, and Kathryn Tuck. Director Holly Ward Lamb was also present, as well as Howell City Manager Erv Suida. Additionally, 13 members of the community were in attendance.

Members absent: None.

***ACTION ITEMS***

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Jennifer Earl took the Oath of Office, and Susan Pominville was appointed as her board sponsor.

***IN-SERVICE TRAINING TOPIC***

Erv Suida, City Manager for the City of Howell, presented information and asked for consideration of the City's request to purchase the library's vacant property. The City is interested in the property related to its plans for development in Downtown Howell and an ice skating rink.

Bob Ellis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, including Item A, Minutes from June 13, 2023; Item B, Bills and Payrolls; Item C, Resolutions: **Resolution 23-07** to Authorize Bank Signatures, **Resolution 23-08** to Authorize Library Investment of Funds, **Resolution 23-09** to Authorize Transfer of Funds to the Sick/Vacation Reserve, **Resolution 23-10** to Authorize Benefits for Emeritus Trustees, **Resolution 23-11** to Authorize Library Director to Approve Expenditures, **Resolution 23-12** to Authorize Bookkeeper to Transfer Funds Between Library Accounts, and **Resolution 23-13** to Authorize Designated Library Use of a Business Credit Card, **Resolution 23-14** to Amend the Budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year; Item D, Board Meeting Topics Calendar for 2023-24; and Item E, Approval of MERS

2023 Officer and Employee Delegate Certificate Form. Susan Pominiville supported, and the board was polled. All board members approved.

### ***ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC***

Cindy Alesso, 4045 Creek Drive, Howell, MI 48843, commented concerning access to the library in general, with special consideration for LGBTQ patrons. She reminded the board of its First Amendment obligation to support access to all items in the public library.

Luke Wilson, 1037 Braeview Drive, Howell, MI 48843. Luke Wilson is currently on the Howell City Council and owns his own business, a laundry mat, in Downtown Howell. He stated his support for the Purchase Agreement submitted by the City of Howell to buy the library's vacant lot and his belief that this development is a tremendous opportunity for our community.

Nikolas Hertrich, 409 Jewitt Street, Howell, MI 48843. Nikolas Hertrich is currently on the Howell City Council and is employed by the State of Michigan. He expressed his support for the City of Howell's attempt to purchase the vacant lot owned by the library and believes this will optimize potential partnerships in our community. He also stated he has heard lots of positive feedback from people in and around the City of Howell for the project.

Erv Suida, 11046 Garrett Drive, Fowlerville, MI 48836. Mr. Suida is the City Manager for the City of Howell. He reiterated his support for the City of Howell's purchase of the library's vacant lot and stated that the City is trying to provide the library with an opportunity while not being aggressive in its approach. The last thing he wants to see is a lot stay vacant in Downtown Howell.

President Kathryn Tuck reported she will be compiling a list of board meetings for country libraries for our trustees to potentially attend. She is not compelling anyone to attend a board meeting but believes it may be interesting for some trustees. She also noted that registration for the MLA Conference in Kalamazoo is now open, which may provide opportunities for trustee education and engagement.

Each board member received the Treasurer's Report for June 2023 electronically. Treasurer Bob Ellis briefly reviewed the report with the board and noted that we are right where we should be at this time of year. Lyn Hewitt

moved to accept the report as presented. Susan Pominville supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

There were no committee meetings/reports during June.

Director Holly Ward Lamb had nothing to add to her written report.

***ACTION ITEMS, cont.***

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS, cont.**

2. Tony Kandt moved to authorize Director Holly Ward Lamb to forward the Purchase Agreement for the purchase of the library's vacant lot from the City of Howell to the library's attorneys for review. Lyn Hewitt supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.
3. All board members reviewed and signed the Annual Board Commitment to Excellence.
4. Bob Ellis moved to approve the request from Howell Area Parks and Recreation Authority to place a big orange chair on the library lawn during the week before and after Melon Festival Weekend, August 18-20, 2023. Maria Stuart supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

***DISCUSSION***

5. The board reviewed various ideas for training topics for the 2023-2024 year. Tony Kandt suggested that representatives of the City of Howell return for discussion in August of 2023.
6. Board members updated the board roster.
7. There was a discussion concerning open committee positions and which board members would be best suited for various committees.
8. The board considered dates, topics, and locations for the annual Livingston County Trustee & Directors Meeting.

***COMMENTS & CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS***

Kathryn Tuck offered a warm welcome to new board member Jennifer Earl.

Susan Pominville moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08. Bob Ellis supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

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Kathleen Murray, Recording Secretary