

**HOWELL CARNEGIE DISTRICT LIBRARY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
**August 8, 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. Susan Pominville 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 Erv Suida, City Manager for the City of Howell, and Kathleen Zaenger, former director of the Howell Carnegie District Library. Additionally, nine members of the public were present.

Members absent: None

Bob Ellis moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, including Item A, Minutes of July 11, 2023, Item B, Bills and Payrolls, and Item C, Standing Committees 2023-2024. Susan Pominville supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

***DISCUSSION***

1. There was a discussion among the board members and Director Holly Ward Lamb, City Manager Suida, and Former Director Kathleen Zaenger concerning a proposed purchase agreement from the City of Howell for the library's vacant lot.

***ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC***

Jacob Schilittler, 322 Riddle Street, Howell, MI 48843. Mr. Schlitter serves on the Howell City Council. He stated the proposed project for the library's vacant lot is just the beginning of a mutually beneficial goal to improve the city as a whole and noted that it is an "important project" for the city. He also stated that the vacant property in its current form is an "eyesore" for anyone that lives and works in this community.

Cindy Alesso, 4045 Creek Drive, Howell, MI 48843. Mrs. Alesso is currently on the staff at the Howell Carnegie Library. She stated that, based on what she

heard during the discussion, the current Master Plan for the City of Howell would not allow the library to carry out the original intent for purchasing the vacant property. She also noted that there are concerns for staff safety if parking is too far away from the library building, and that is not ideal since the library staff is very aware of parking safety issues.

President Kathryn Tuck reported that Livingston County is rebooting its “Talking is Teaching,” initiative and providing “trusted messenger” training Monday August 30, at LESA. Also, there is a CTA (certified tourism ambassador) networking event at Aberrant Ales on August 24. The goal is to get as many people certified as possible.

Each board member received the Treasurer’s Report for July 2023 electronically. Treasurer Bob Ellis briefly reviewed the report with the board. 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 July.

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

### ***ACTION ITEMS***

#### ***UNFINISHED BUSINESS:***

None.

#### ***NEW BUSINESS:***

2. Bob Ellis moved to approve the Purchase Agreement from the City of Howell for the library’s vacant lot. Tony Kandt supported, and the board was polled: Jennifer Earl, no; Bob Ellis, yes; Lyn Hewitt, no; Tony Kandt, no; Susan Pominville, no; Maria Stuart, no; and Kathryn Tuck abstained. **Motion fails.** Susan Pominville moved that the library move forward with hiring a facilitator to work with the library and the City of Howell to come to a mutually beneficial resolution to the situation concerning the sale of the library’s vacant lot to the City of Howell for development. Jennifer Earl supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.
3. Bob Ellis moved to approve Resolution 23-15 to authorize operating millage for 2023. Lyn Hewitt supported, and the board was polled. All board members approved.

### ***DISCUSSION, cont.***

4. The process for the library director's performance appraisal was briefly reviewed.
5. Board members were asked to consider a location for the annual board holiday dinner. There was some interest in 2Fogs Pub because of its close proximity to the library. The dinner will take place Tuesday, December 12, 2023, immediately following the board meeting at 6:00 pm.
6. The board was asked to review the Conflict of Interest Policy. Holly Ward Lamb stated this policy will go before the library's attorney for review soon.

***IN-SERVICE TRAINING TOPIC***

None.

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

Katherine Tuck advised that she will not be present for the November 14, 2023 meeting.

Susan Pominville moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 pm. Bob Ellis supported, and a quorum of the board unanimously approved.

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Kathleen Murray, Recording Secretary