



**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**  
MINUTES (approved)  
Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 4:00pm  
McGuire Community Room  
610 Woodmere Ave., Traverse City, MI 49686

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Odgers at 4:00pm. Present were: Odgers (President); Pakieser (Vice President); Sullivan (Treasurer); Vickery, Deyo, and Jones (Trustees). Wescott (Secretary) was absent. Also present were: Howard (Director); Radjenovich (Assistant Director for Finance and Human Resources); and Carpenter (Staff).

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

All members in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Pakieser, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED.

**4. Public Comment**

President Odgers opened the floor for public comment. The following people addressed the board: Heather Brady, TADL Marketing and Communications Manager, highlighted the artwork in the McGuire Community Room, which was in the City tunnel and funded by a Grand Travers Band public art grant. It is on loan from the City through April and coincides with the culmination of the NEA Big Read.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

a. *Regular Meeting of February 17, 2022*

Jones noted a correction in the minutes under item 10, where the minutes read President Jones, but should read President Odgers. It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Pakieser, to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 17, 2022 with the aforementioned amendment. Motion CARRIED.

b. *Study Session and Retreat of March 1, 2022*

It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Pakieser, to approve the study session and retreat minutes of March 1, 2022 as presented. Motion CARRIED.

**6. Reports and Communications**

a. *Director Report | Departmental Reports*

Howard confirmed her written report and added the following:

- Due to health issues, the Joy Harjo event has moved to a virtual program.

Vickery inquired about the appearance of a trend in circulation figures and type of usage reported. Howard confirmed that there is a general trend toward more electronic material

usage. Moving forward Howard will continue to follow the current eBook market and cost challenges.

**b. *Financial Reports***

Radjenovich confirmed her written report for February and noted the following:

- \$20,000 has been received from the Grand Traverse Band
- The 2021 audit is coming up mid-April.
- Howard and Radjenovich are finishing up their financial management course.

President Odgers noted that the wonderful new library history book, *Beyond Books*, is now available. Howard noted that the staff was very supportive of the endeavor and provided research assistance and information through curbside services during the pandemic. Sullivan found it very interesting and suggested that all board members purchase a copy.

**c. *Member Library Reports***

Written reports were included in the board packet from Vicki Shurly, Director of Peninsula Community Library (PCL) and Jennifer Thomet, Director of Interlochen Public Library (IPL).

There was no written or verbal report from Kendall Spratt, Director of Fife lake Public Library (FLPL). Howard noted that FLPL did not hold their last board meeting due to a lack of quorum present.

**d. *Committee Reports***

- Finance and Facilities and Services Committee – Sullivan noted that the committee had not met, however Jass, TADL Facilities Manager, included a detailed report in his administrative report.
- Policy and Personnel Committee – Vickery noted that the committee had met and discussed what the board might want to interject into the community discussion of the need for a day shelter and meeting the needs of the behavioral concerns that the library is having in relation to the overall issue. The draft is on the agenda for discussion.

**e. *Other Reports and Communications***

- Friends' Report – Donna Hornberger, TADL Friends Board President  
Hornberger noted the Saunders Jazz Collection sale at the end of the month. The Sight & Sound staff will be helping with that. The annual meeting will be May 11, and a book sale is scheduled for June 3-5 and they are considering purchasing new iPads for credit card transactions. TADL board members are encouraged to become Friends of TADL members and are welcome to be a part of the Friends board as well.

**7. *Old Business***

**a. *Review Action Items from Retreat***

Howard had developed a list of the action items from the retreat. She read through them and suggested they be first addressed in the committee meetings. The board agreed that a regular annual or bi-annual retreat would be beneficial for long-term foresight discussions and that modifying the bylaws to include a consent calendar would allow time for generative discussions on a regular basis. Several other points were discussed, regarding shortening the length of time

for public comment from 5 minutes to 3 minutes, including recommendations from the committees in the reported minutes, and also taking the time to query the staff for their insight regarding challenges, industry forecasting, and other service ideas to keep the library on the forefront in the community. Odgers noted that a revision to the Director evaluation and trustee evaluation process was also discussed at the retreat. Jones expressed the importance of and a desire to maintain dedicated time on the agenda toward the Member Library and Friends reports.

b. *Discussion of Day Shelter Statement*

Howard explained that a new development had come about since the last discussion of the day shelter statement draft from the board. A special meeting was held at the Library with many key players involved and/or affected by Safe Harbor clientele and policies. Safe Harbor is planning to petition to modify their Special Land Use Permit (SLUP) to allow them to stay open until June 30. Howard noted that there doesn't seem to be much community support for the petition and the Library staff is also concerned about a modification. The library's security guards will be in place only until the end of June. Howard asked the board for permission to attend the upcoming petition meeting, to represent the Library, and ask the City Commission to deny SLUP extension to Safe Harbor.

Howard expressed that based on conversation at the special meeting, no one is taking responsibility to handle the day shelter situation which continues to put the Library in a reactionary position, and therefore, the statement from the board is an important support piece in developing a solution to a community-wide challenge.

Pakieser emphasized, for clarity and consistency, that TADL cares for those in the community but the Library is not the solution to the day shelter issue. Jones reinforced that the main problems come from misbehaviors of those under the influence and/or have addition issues with drugs and alcohol, many of whom are homeless and in need of a day shelter. Vickery added that the problems the Library is experiencing with behavioral infractions of some patrons at the library and the subsequent and notable discomfort of patrons/families using the library appropriately for its intended purpose is putting the community's public asset in peril.

After further discussion among the trustees, and confirmation from Zeits (Counsel) on the legal process of finalizing and signing the statement, it was **MOVED** by Pakieser, **SUPPORTED** by Vickery to adopt the draft statement as presented from the Policy Committee and reviewed by the full board to delegate to Howard final approval of the statement in both form and substance, and to authorize her to share and voice the TADL Board's unified concerns and interest in a day shelter solution with the City Commission and other appropriate bodies. Motion **CARRIED**.

Zeits noted that in addition to Howard representing the TADL board as a single voice, that individual board trustees may attend the same meetings and express their own opinions in the capacity as a private citizen only.

**8. Public Comment**

President Odgers opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

**9. Trustee Comment**

President Odgers noted that Howard contributed comments about banned books in the college newspaper, White Pine Press.

10. **Adjournment**

With a motion to adjourn by Sullivan, supported by Pakieser, President Odgers adjourned the meeting at 5:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by board vote on April 21, 2022



V. Carpenter, Recording Secretary



J. Wescott, Board Secretary