

EPLS Board of Trustees Minutes

October 10, 2022, 6:00pm

Central Branch Rotary Room

Trustees Present: Debbie Kroupa; President, Rhonda Smith; Vice President; Dr. Chad Vickers;
Secretary, Jessica Schneider, Dr. Patricia Schrull, Sam Battle

Absent: Ray Armstrong Jr.

Staff Present: Jennifer Starkey; Director, Rob Schirhart; Fiscal Officer, Rondra Davis, Frank
Szuch, Terri Miller

Visitor: None

1. **Call to Order:** Ms. Kroupa called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.
2. **Welcome of Attendees:** Ms. Kroupa
3. **Public Hearing of Visitors:** Ms. Kroupa
4. **Consent Agenda Items:**
 - a. Approval of September 12th, 2022, monthly meeting minutes
 - b. Personnel Actions:
 - New Hires:

Arys Handey	Library Tech II
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 - Resignations:

Ethan Carnahan	Library Tech III – Fleet
Cheryl Grapes	Library Tech II
 - c. Memorials/ Donations:

Cindy Martin	\$50.00	In memory of Jeannine Kirk
Vandemark Jewelers	\$25.00	In Memory of James Deery
Vandemark Jewelers	\$50.00	In Memory of Ann Criss

Resolution # 97.22: On the motion of Dr. Patricia Schrull, seconded by Jessica Schneider, the board unanimously agreed to approve the Consent Agenda Items.

5. **Fiscal Officer's Report:** Mr. Schirhart
Motion to accept the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission of Lorain County and authorize the necessary tax levies, certifying them to the county Auditor for 2023. This motion to accept, by roll call vote, the tax levy certification for 2023 in the amount of \$3,238,393 (\$2,195,443 operating levy; \$1,042,950 bond levy).

Resolution # 99.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Dr. Patricia Schrull, the board unanimously approved, by roll call vote, to accept the tax levy certification for 2023 in the amount of \$3,238,393 (\$2,195,443 operating levy; \$1,042,950 bond levy).

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Absent
Debbie Kroupa	<u>X</u>			
Rhonda Smith	<u>X</u>			
Dr. Chad Vickers	<u>X</u>			
Sam Battle				<u>X</u>
Ray Armstrong Jr.				<u>X</u>
Dr. Patricia Schrull	<u>X</u>			
Jessica Schneider	<u>X</u>			

Independent Auditor asked for 3rd extension until Oct. 30th for Fiscal Year 2020 /2021.

Resolution # 100.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Dr. Patricia Schrull, the board unanimously agreed to approve the Fiscal Officer’s Report.

6. Director’s Report: Ms. Starkey

1. Facilities updates

a. Taylor building project update (on capital projects list) new furniture has been selected that will replace the old and deteriorating pieces in that are limiting the teams at Taylor from ideal workflows and comfort. Order is being placed next week

2. Strategic planning update

a. Committee work sessions scheduled Nov 1, Nov 8 and backup date of Dec 6

b. Awaiting final reporting from state library; analysis of community survey is beginning

3. Operations updates / news

a. Staff day Oct 10th

b. South Outdoor spaces

EPLS has been a partner in the planning for the Pocket Park at 15th and West Ave. Discussion has started about having an architect draw up designs. Preliminary conversations are beginning about what other opportunities there may be for the 3 parcels of land belonging to EPLS that mesh in cooperation with the park the City of Elyria is working on. The Garden currently sits on 2 of the 3 parcels.

c. AIA Award

EPLS Central Library is the recipient of the 1st Place People's Choice Award by the 2022 AIA Ohio Design Awards!

d. Book challenges:

We are watching the national and local news and discourse around the wave of book challenges and calls for censorship, also watching local issues play out such as in Ashland. EPLS has strong collection development policy language that values collection diversity.

4. Spotlight on a library initiative – Tabled until Ms. Sherban can speak in person.

Resolution # 101.22: On the motion of Jessica Schneider, seconded by Dr. Chad Vickers, the board unanimously agreed to approve the Director's Report.

7. **President's Report:** Ms. Kroupa

Debbie Kroupa attended the Library Trustee event presented by the Lorain County Prosecutor Dan Petticord. Mainly a refresher on laws, public records and meetings, executive sessions, committees, taxes, and litigation.

Resolution # 102.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Sam Battle, The board unanimously agreed to approve the President's Report.

8. **Committee Reports:**

Friends of EPLS – Ms. Starkey spoke on behalf to the Friends of EPLS group. Oct. 13th thru Oct. 16th is the book sale.

Friends of EPLS Keystone – Ms. Starkey spoke on behalf of the Friends of EPLS Keystone group. Nov. 17th thru Nov. 20th is the book sale. Dec. 1st is the tree lighting at the Keystone branch.

Elyria Public Library Foundation – Ms. Smith spoke on behalf of the Foundation. Nov. will be the start of the Annual Appeal for 2023. The Foundation has approved their new Strategic Plan. Rob Schirhart is the new Treasurer. Looking to recruit new Board members.

AD HOC Committee – Ms. Kroupa asked for volunteers for two committees.

Nomination Officers Committee – Jessica Schneider and Sam Battle

Bring nominations to Dec. Meeting, will vote in January 2023.

Review Board Recruitment and Orientation Plan Committee –

Dr. Patricia Schrull; Chair, Rhonda Smith, Jessica Schneider

Currently at seven Board Trustees, start process for new Board members.

Resolution 103.22: On the motion of Dr. Chad Vickers, seconded by Dr. Patricia Schrull, the board unanimously agreed to approve the Committee Reports.

9. Old Business:

- a. Motion to approve revised Nepotism Policy – Tabled from September 2022

Resolution #104.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Debbie Kroupa, the board unanimously, by roll call vote, agreed to approve the revised Nepotism Policy.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Absent
Debbie Kroupa	<u>X</u>			
Rhonda Smith	<u>X</u>			
Dr. Chad Vickers	<u>X</u>			
Sam Battle	<u>X</u>			
Ray Armstrong Jr.				<u>X</u>
Dr. Patricia Schrull	<u>X</u>			
Jessica Schneider	<u>X</u>			

- b. Motion to approve new Tardy Policy – Tabled from September 2022

Resolution # 105.22: On the motion of Dr. Patricia Schrull, seconded by Sam Battle, the board unanimously, by roll call vote, agreed to approve the new Tardy Policy.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Absent
Debbie Kroupa	<u>X</u>			
Rhonda Smith	<u>X</u>			
Dr. Chad Vickers	<u>X</u>			
Sam Battle	<u>X</u>			
Ray Armstrong Jr.				<u>X</u>
Dr. Patricia Schrull	<u>X</u>			
Jessica Schneider	<u>X</u>			

- c. Motion to dismiss the lawsuit between the Library, ECIC and the City of Elyria – Tabled from September 2022

Resolution # 106.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Jessica Schneider, the board unanimously, by roll call vote, agreed to dismiss the lawsuit between the Library, ECIC and the City of Elyria.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Absent
Debbie Kroupa	<u>X</u>			
Rhonda Smith	<u>X</u>			
Dr. Chad Vickers	<u>X</u>			
Sam Battle	<u>X</u>			
Ray Armstrong Jr.				<u>X</u>
Dr. Patricia Schrull	<u>X</u>			
Jessica Schneider	<u>X</u>			

10. New Business:

- a. Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Contract Matters.

Resolution #107.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Dr. Patricia Schrull, the board approved, by roll call vote, to enter into Executive Session at 6:45pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Absent
Debbie Kroupa	<u>X</u>			
Rhonda Smith	<u>X</u>			
Dr. Chad Vickers	<u>X</u>			
Sam Battle	<u>X</u>			
Ray Armstrong Jr.				<u>X</u>
Dr. Patricia Schrull	<u>X</u>			
Jessica Schneider	<u>X</u>			

b. Motion to reconvene from Executive Session

Resolution #108.22: On the motion of Rhonda Smith, seconded by Jessica Schneider, the board approved, by roll call vote, to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:50pm.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Absent
Debbie Kroupa	<u>X</u>			
Rhonda Smith	<u>X</u>			
Dr. Chad Vickers	<u>X</u>			
Sam Battle	<u>X</u>			
Ray Armstrong Jr.				<u>X</u>
Dr. Patricia Schrull	<u>X</u>			
Jessica Schneider	<u>X</u>			

11. Adjournment

Resolution #109.22: On the motion of Jessica Schneider, seconded by Sam Battle, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:52pm.

Next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, November 14th, 2022, at 6:00pm in the Rotary Room at the Central Library.

President

Secretary

(RLD)