

Thorntown Public Library Board of Trustees
August 12, 2024
Minutes

President Barb Hillger called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Also present were Chuck Behrens, Jennifer Bopp, Amber Brown, Linda Fahrenbach, Judy Johnson, Barney Lewis, Director Christine Sterle, Treasurer Barbara Darnell, and board assistant Kathy Bowen.

Linda moved to approve the agenda with a second by Jennifer. Vote 6-0

Jennifer moved to approve the July Secretary's report with additional claims presented by Barbara Darnell. Amber seconded. Vote 6-0

Barbara presented the Monthly Financial Report. Receipts into the operating fund for July, 2024 were \$28,562.34. Operating fund disbursements totaled \$55,639.85. July's ending cash balance was \$1,283,287.86 with investments of \$276,648.36. Total Cash/Investments were \$1,559,986.22.

Jennifer moved to approve the Register of Claims with a second by Barney. Vote 6-0

With no public present the board proceeded to Reports.

Thorntown Heritage Museum – Over 80 people attended the August 3 Ice Cream Social and \$566 in donations was collected, with more donations coming in. The museum is still open on Saturdays through the Festival. During the Festival the museum will be hosting vendors, touch-a-tractor, and Dave's Barrel Train.

Old Business:

The board reviewed the proposed 2025 budgets. The proposed operating budget is \$890,344 and rainy day budget is \$125,000, for a total of \$1,015,344. This total is below the 2025 MLGQ (Maximum Levy Growth Quotient). Christine explained increases in salaries, insurance costs, maintenance contracts, and utilities. The public hearing is scheduled for September 9 and October board meeting will include budget adoption.

New Business:

Automated Door & Access in Indianapolis has provided a quote for an automated door solution for the men's room (and others, if so desired). The cost is over \$5,000 per door. Christine will seek another estimate.

The Marketing team proposed new signage for the front and side of the building. The signs would cost around \$35 each. We'll need two for the library and one at the Thorntown Heritage Museum.

Director's Report

The large sign on what used to be Thorntown Lion's Club property became the town's responsibility (previously handled by Home National Bank employees) when they acquired the property. Since the town clerk has irregular office hours and is very busy, she asked if the library would like to take over the sign duties (scheduling and putting up the letters).

We have agreed. There is a Google doc for staff to enter reservations and many staff have agreed to help put up the letters when needed.

Over 100 children have been signed up for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! Six signed up after the WAVE Back-to-School Bash where Barb Lebo and Christine attended with Dolly.

The bat valve installation and caulking were completed Thursday; the bat valve removal is scheduled for Monday. Christine will contact Servpro for a remediation estimate next week.

The Community Survey is live and we have had 51 responses so far, with a target of 358. Invitations for Community Conversations were mailed last Monday and Tuesday. We have had 4 responses so far with a target of 40. Email follow-ups are going out tomorrow. If you think of anyone we should invite or interview, please encourage them to call the library. Also, please fill out the survey.

The replacement shelving component has arrived undamaged.

The Puzzle Showdown was a success! There were 9 teams and 8 finished within the 2-hour time limit. The Husk family was victorious. Another event is planned for January 2025.

Euchre Night raised \$333 for the Festival of the Turning Leaves. In August we will support WAVE and 21st Century Food Pantry will be supported in September.

The theme of the 2024 Festival is "Courtesy of the Red, White & Blue".

Sugar Creek Tree Care removed two dead/half-dead yew bushes on the west side of the library. This was due to blight.

Christine will call Young & Sons next week to see if the sinkhole in the east parking area can be patched this fall.

Summer reading totals were: Youth-234, Teens-84, Adults-61.

Judy motioned to adjourn the August board meeting with a second by Jennifer at 7:07 p.m. Vote 7-0.

Linda Fahrenbach, Secretary