

DIRECTOR  
Jenny Marr

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Judeen Bartos  
Meghan Evoy  
Kelly Farrah  
Adrienne Fazzolara  
Amanda Hanlin  
Erin Hooper  
Kevin Yezbick



*Strengthening the community by  
providing access to materials  
and services that inform, enrich,  
entertain and empower.*

222 East Nine Mile Rd., Ferndale, MI 48220  
248-546-2504 fadl.org

## Library Board Meeting

### Approved Minutes

June 15, 2023 - 6:30 PM

#### Board Meeting

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order by Judeen Bartos at 6:30PM.
2. Roll call: Judeen Bartos, Meghan Evoy, Kelly Farrah, Adrienne Fazzolara, Amanda Hanlin, Kevin Yezbick. Erin Hooper absent with notice.

Director Jenny Marr and Assistant Director/Recording Secretary Jordan Wright also present.

3. Approval of agenda

**A MOTION by Yezbick and seconded by Farrah to approve the agenda as presented;** passed unanimously

4. Director's Report

Marr discussed the "Hide The Pride" activity and the library's response. The library has acquired many more copies of the books that were taken to counter any further Hide the Pride activities and to continue providing access to the materials. The Library thanks the community for their support in helping purchase these extra copies.

Marr also discussed what safety means in a library, and the reality that because libraries are a limited public forum, the library is limited in the kind of responses it can take. She also discussed her statewide advocacy for libraries and intellectual freedom generally.

Board President Bartos clarified that the books were not stolen, but checked out and the Library expects the materials to be returned.

5. Public Comment – *Total time not to exceed 30 minutes, 3 minutes per speaker*

4 residents, 15 non-residents, and 2 FADL employees spoke during the public comment section. Most speakers encouraged the board to approve the Ferndale Library Worker's Union's forthcoming Emergency Action Plan. The Board approved a 20 minute extension to public comment time to accommodate all those wishing to speak.

Additionally, Board Members made comments:

Hanlin thanked everyone for attending the meeting and stated that she believes the goal of hate groups is to divide us.

Yezbick detailed his time working as a librarian for 8 years and in multiple service industry jobs, and reminded the audience that patron/customer incidents are so common that reporting systems are marketed specifically to libraries, which the board approved the purchase and implementation of. He directed people to the FY24 library budget presentation for accurate statistics about the library's history of investment in its staff

Evoy spoke about the Board member's oath and responsibility to uphold the Constitution, the principles of free speech, and the challenges of balancing competing rights.

Farrah thanked everyone for attending and reminded the audience that bargaining doesn't happen in public.

Fazzolara spoke about her long experience as a union member and reminded the audience that union contracts take time and honesty. She's been on the board for 15 years and believes there is a long history of supporting and listening to the staff.

Bartos spoke about the concepts of good and bad faith bargaining and stated her concern that issues discussed in collective bargaining agreements were being shared with the public.

**6. Minutes: Approve May 18, 2023 regular meeting**

**A MOTION by Hanlin and seconded by Evoy to approve the May 18, 2023 regular meeting minutes as presented;** passed unanimously

Minutes: Approve May 18, 2023 closed session 1

**A MOTION by Evoy and seconded by Farrah to approve the May 18, 2023 closed session 1 minutes as presented;** passed unanimously

Minutes: Approve May 18, 2023 closed session 2

**A MOTION by Evoy and seconded by Farrah to approve the May 18, 2023 closed session 2 minutes as presented;** passed unanimously

**7. Budget Amendment FY2023**

Director Marr explained the proposed budget amendments.

**A MOTION by Hanlin and seconded by Evoy to amend the FY 2023 budget as proposed;** passed unanimously

**8. Acceptance of expenditures and finance reports for the month of May**

**A MOTION by Yezbick and seconded by Farrah to accept the expenditures and finance reports for the month of May;** passed unanimously

**9. Insurance approvals for FY2024**

**A MOTION by Yezbick and seconded by Hanlin to renew the Michigan Municipal League Insurance contract;** passed unanimously

**A MOTION by Evoy and seconded by Farrah to approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Medical, Vision and Dental plan as presented;** passed unanimously

**10. Board Calendar of Events**

**11. Committee reports**

**A. Art & Exhibitions – Erin**

Hooper's full report is available in the board packet. The tiny art exhibition begins in two weeks and there will be a new artist on display starting July 16

**B. Friends of the FPL – Kelly**

The Friends purchased copies of the books targeted by the Hide the Pride campaign.

**C. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – Amanda**

Reached out to Affirmations and a few other community organizations for advice and partnerships.

**D. Finance – Judeen and Kevin**

Met this week.

**E. Personnel – Adrienne**

No report.

**F. Schools – Meghan**

No report

**12. Committee membership appointments as needed**

None.

**13. Review action items**

None.

**14. Announcements/comments from board members**

Yezbick expressed his concern regarding former staff member's assumption/expectation that the board members don't know staff members personally. He noted that in an effort to not micromanage or appear overbearing or intrusive, the board members regularly use the library without announcing themselves to staff.

Evoy reiterated her support for Director Marr's hard work and leadership.

**15. \*\*\*Closed Session to be convened – For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement if either negotiating party requests a closed hearing, in accordance with Sec. 8(1)(c) of the Open Meetings Act (OMA) MCL 15.268.**

**A MOTION by Hanlin and seconded by Evoy to enter a closed session at 7:56PM.**

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bartos, Evoy, Farrah, Fazzolara, Hanlin, Hooper, Yezbick

No: 0

Return from closed session at 9:24PM

**16. Adjourn**

**A MOTION by Evoy and seconded by Yezbick to adjourn at 9:25; passed unanimously**

Proposed minutes of this meeting will be available for public inspection at the Ferndale Area District Library, located at 222 East Nine Mile Road, Ferndale, eight (8) business days after the meeting. Approved minutes are available within five (5) business days after the meeting at which they are approved (in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267.)