

CAMDEN COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: June 13, 2023

LOCATION: M. Allan Vogelson Branch

PRESENT: Joseph Tortorelli, Robert Weil, Suzanne Fox, Pat Abusi, Debra Kendall, Charlene Burd, Linda Devlin. County Counsel: Howard Goldberg. Staff: Jennifer Druce, Antonella Kressel, Lauren Callahan, Barbara DelPidio.

The regular meeting of the Camden County Library Commission was held in compliance with Open Public Meeting Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 to 10:4-12.

Library Commissioner Joseph Tortorelli welcomed Camden County Commissioner Melinda Kane to the meeting.

CLOSED SESSION: Commissioner Weil presented a motion to go into closed session and it was seconded by Commissioner Fox. Resolution #47-23 approved closing the meeting to discuss personnel issues in accordance with C10:4-13 of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Commissioner Fox presented a motion to open the meeting to the public; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendall. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES: Commissioner Kendall presented a motion to accept the minutes for the May 2023 regular meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Weil. The regular minutes for May 2023 were unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Commissioner Abusi presented a motion to accept the financial statements for April 2023; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Kendall and Resolution #48-23, approving the financial statements for April 2023, was unanimously approved.

BILLS AND VOUCHERS: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to accept the bills and vouchers for May 2023; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Weil and Resolution #49-23, approving the bills and vouchers for May 2023, was unanimously approved.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to accept the appointments and resignations for May 2023, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Burd and Resolution #50-23, approving the appointments and resignations for May 2023, was unanimously approved.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Ms. Devlin welcomed Camden County Commissioner Melinda Kane to the meeting.

Ms. Devlin announced that the Summer Reading programs for children, teens, and adults will begin on June 26. This year's theme is *All Together Now*. Featured events include kickoff parties and magic shows at several branches, Interactive storytelling, and presentations at most branches by the Rancocas Nature Center, Music Play Patrol, and Philadelphia Magic Gardens who will teach attendees at the programs to create hojalata, which is Mexican tin folk art.

Ms. Devlin announced that Library patrons now have access to two new digital resources, Gale Business Plan Builder and LinkedIn Learning. The Business Plan Builder is a step-by-step online planning tool for starting, managing, and optimizing a business or nonprofit organization. LinkedIn Learning helps patrons learn on-demand skills with over 16,000 business, technology, and creative online courses taught by professionals.

Ms. Devlin announced that Pride events throughout the Library System are celebrating with *Read with Pride*. Every branch will feature make and take tissue paper flower crowns and book displays. There will be a virtual author visit by Robyn Gigl, the author of the legal thrillers *Remain Silent* (2023), *Survivor's Guilt* (2022), and *By Way of Sorrow* (2021). Robyn is an activist who has been honored by the ACLU-NJ and the NJ Pride Network for her work on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community.

Ms. Devlin presented the Commission with some statistics and emphasized that the Library is becoming busier but not quite where it was pre pandemic. Circulation, holds and staff assisted transactions have all increased. Database usage has increased 251% and e Content usage is up 73% since 2019. The number of computer sessions has also increased throughout the system. Ms. Devlin emphasized that use of the Library has changed, and staff will connect with our communities to find out how residents want and need to use the Library post-pandemic.

Associate Director Jennifer Druce updated the Commission on the following:

The Ferry Avenue Branch was awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant that is funding a new digital literacy classroom. A large, fixed service desk in the center of the public area has been removed and painting and new flooring will be installed soon. Classroom furniture has arrived and will be installed after the carpeting and painting is complete.

The Library continues to struggle with recruiting children's librarians. Total librarian hours in the system are currently down 20%, which is an improvement since last month when 33% of hours remained unfilled. The Gloucester Township Branch and Bellmawr Branch have hired two new full-time librarians.

Commissioner Weil presented a motion to accept the Director's Report; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Fox and the Director's Report was unanimously approved.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Reclassification, Library Assistant to Sr. Library Assistant: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to authorize the reclassification, Library Assistant to Sr. Library Assistant, Nicole Westen effective June 25, 2023; Commissioner Burd seconded the motion and Resolution #51-23 was unanimously approved.

Reclassification, Library Assistant to Sr. Library Assistant: Commissioner Weil presented a motion to authorize the reclassification, Library Assistant to Sr. Library Assistant, Katrina Wood effective June 25, 2023; Commissioner Abusi seconded the motion and Resolution #52-23 was unanimously approved.

Revise Policy Circ-5 Reserves: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to revise Policy Circ-5 Reserves; Commissioner Burd seconded the motion and Resolution #53-23 was unanimously approved.

Add item of revenue and appropriation to the 2023 Literacy Budget: Commissioner Abusi presented a motion to add item of revenue and appropriation to the 2023 Literacy Budget in the amount of \$20,000.00; Commissioner Fox seconded the motion and Resolution #54-23 was unanimously approved.

Pay to Play-Newspaper Direct, Inc: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to authorize the Pay to Play-Newspaper Direct, Inc in the amount of \$5,000.00; Commissioner Burd seconded the motion and Resolution #55-23 was unanimously approved.

Pay to Play-OCLC: Commissioner Weil presented a motion to authorize the Pay to Play-OCLC in the amount of \$83,152.05; Commissioner Burd seconded the motion and Resolution #56-23 was unanimously approved.

Authorize the 2021 State Aid Appropriation Transfers: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to authorize the 2021 State Aid Appropriation Transfers in the amount of \$14,865.00; Commissioner Weil seconded the motion and Resolution #57-23 was unanimously approved.

Authorize the 2022 State Aid Appropriation Transfers: Commissioner Fox presented a motion to authorize the 2022 State Aid Appropriation Transfers in the amount of \$14,962.00; Commissioner Burd seconded the motion and Resolution #58-23 was unanimously approved.

Reclassification, Library Page to Library Assistant: Commissioner Weil presented a motion to authorize the reclassification, Library Page to Library Assistant, Shannon Danz effective June 25, 2023; Commissioner Burd seconded the motion and Resolution #59-23 was unanimously approved.

Reclassification, Library Page to Library Assistant: Commissioner Weil presented a motion to authorize the reclassification, Library Page to Library Assistant, Cheyenne Miller effective June 25, 2023; Commissioner Kendall seconded the motion and Resolution #60-23 was unanimously approved.

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS:

PUBLIC PORTION: There is no public comment. Commissioner Weil presented a motion to move to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Fox seconded the motion, and it was unanimous to move to adjourn the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Weil presented a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Fox seconded the motion, and it was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Devlin, Director
June 14, 2023



Certified by _____

Linda A. Devlin, Director

Date: _____

June 14, 2023