

**INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2024**

The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library Board met in person at the Decatur Branch Library, 5301 Kentucky Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 6:35 p.m. pursuant to notice given in accordance with the rules of the Board.

1. Call To Order

President Tribble called the meeting to order. In the absence of Dr. Payne, Dr. Murtadha acted as Secretary.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Mr. Lane, Dr. Murtadha, Dr. Palacio, Ms. Tribble and Dr. White.

Members absent: Mr. Biederman and Dr. Payne.

The Chair recognized a quorum.

Ms. Tribble thanked the entire IndyPL team, the Board, the Library Foundation and patrons for their individual and collective contributions to the Library’s successes of 2023. She mentioned the ongoing renovations at the Pike and Nora branches and noted that the new Glendale Branch is scheduled to open in the next few months. Ms. Tribble then shared information about the upcoming 36th Annual Meet the Artists Gala and opening reception which will take place on February 17, 2024 at Central Library.

3. Branch Manager’s Report and Department Overview

a. Decatur Branch Report

Ms. Doriene Smither, Manager, Decatur Branch, provided information about the branch’s history, programs and services. The branch, which has been at its current location since 1990, serves a population of 43,225, including 11 public schools, one charter school, 34 churches and one community center. The branch had 6,362 cardholders in 2023.

b. **Reading and Writing Strategic Priority: Marion County Literacy Rates**

Ms. Shael Weidenbach, Area Resource Manager – Youth Services, and Ms. Sakura Fuqua, Immigrant Outreach Program Specialist, shared that the Library has programs and services that help with raising the pass rates for the IRead-3 assessment of foundational reading skills for third graders. These include On The Road to Reading, Reading Ready Time and 1,000 Books by Kindergarten. The Library also helps teen and adult literacy rates with programs such as Pathway to Literacy, 100 Books Before Graduation and various book clubs.

4. Public Comment

a. **Public Comment** (Name and summary of comments follows)

Ms. Linda Kile, the President of the Decatur Township Civic Council, shared with the Board her love for the services provided by IndyPL and for the staff at the Decatur Branch. She commented the staff there are always polite and courteous. She also mentioned using the Book Club in a Bag program for a local book club group.

Mr. Michael Torres, IndyPL employee and President of AFSCME Local 3395 – Indy Library Workers, spoke on the separation of former Interim CEO Nichelle Hayes from the Library and his respect and admiration for her. He also commented on recent salary negotiations and questioned if across-the-board percentage increases will widen the equity gap.

Ms. Melinda Mullican, Wayne Branch Library Manager and a member of IndyPL's Staff Association Program and Scholarship Committee, spoke about the work of the Committee which provides funds for MLS and undergraduate degrees. She noted that two staff members had earned scholarships.

5. Approval Of Minutes: Executive Session, Regular and Special Meetings

a. **Regular Meeting, December 18, 2023**

The minutes from the Regular Meeting held December 18, 2023 were approved on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Mr. Lane, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye

Ms. Tribble – Aye

Dr. Murtadha – Aye

Dr. White – Aye

Dr. Palacio – Aye

COMMITTEE REPORTS

6. Finance Committee (Dr. Patricia A. Payne, Chair; Dr. Luis A. Palacio, Dr. Eugene G. White)

a. **Report of the Treasurer**

Ms. Lolita Campbell, Chief Financial Officer and Ms. Mary Rankin, Treasurer, presented the Report of the Treasurer.

Significant items of note were that as of December 2023, the year-to-date revenue was \$60,756,468 and the year-to-date expenditures were \$49,769,580.

The Report of the Treasurer was approved for filing for audit on the motion of Dr. White, seconded by Mr. Lane, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

b. **Resolution 1 – 2024** (Annual Baker & Taylor Book Leasing/High Demand Services)

Ms. Campbell explained that this program provides tools to manage and acquire high-demand titles efficiently and quickly for the Library to meet public demand. The Committee recommended approval to pay Baker & Taylor \$116,905 for approximately 6,684 items during the period February 1, 2024-January 31, 2025.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 1 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee, Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

c. **Resolution 2 – 2024** (Approval to Award Contract for Purchase of Network Switches and Related Equipment)

Ms. Shanika Heyward, Chief Innovation and Technology Officer, shared that the Committee recommended that the Library enter into an agreement with Logicalis for an amount not to exceed \$501,500.16 for the purchase of network switches and related equipment.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 2 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

d. **Resolution 3 – 2024** (Disclosure of Waived Fines and Fees)

Ms. Campbell advised there was a total of \$130,168 of uncollectible fines and fees in 2023. These were waived at the branches following the Library’s debt collection process.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 3 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

e. **Resolution 4 – 2024** (Outstanding Purchase Orders 2023)

Ms. Campbell explained that outstanding purchase orders not paid before December 31, 2023 will be paid in fiscal year 2024. Appropriations were provided for the purchase orders in the 2023 budget.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 4 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

f. **Resolution 5 – 2024** (Confirming Marion County Board of Finance)

Ms. Campbell noted that the Committee recommended that the Marion County Board of Finance be designated to serve as the Library’s Board of Finance for 2024.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 5 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. Murtadha seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

g. **Resolution 6 – 2024** (Transfer Between Classifications and Accounts)

Ms. Campbell advised that the Committee recommends the transfer of \$185,000 within the Facilities Department's budget from various accounts to Appointed Salaries to fund salaries for the Library Security Assistants.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 6 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Finance Committee. Dr. White seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

7. **Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee (Mr. Raymond J. Biederman, Chair; Dr. Khaula Murtadha, Dr. Luis A. Palacio, Dr. Patricia A. Payne)**

It was noted that the Committee did not have a report this month.

8. **Facilities Committee (Dr. Eugene G. White, Chair; Mr. Stephen Lane, Dr. Khaula Murtadha)**

a. **Resolution 7 – 2024** (Approval to Award a Construction Services Contract for the Pike Branch Renovation Project)

Mr. Adam Parsons, Chief Operational Services Officer, explained the Committee recommended the contract for the Pike Branch Renovation Project be awarded to Holladay Construction Group, LLC, for the total cost of \$3,159,819. The renovated branch should reopen in the first quarter of 2025.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 7 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Dr. Palacio seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

b. **Resolution 8 – 2024** (Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with New Direction Church)

Mr. Parsons explained that, due to a growing congregation, the New Direction Church was needing more space for parking. The Committee has determined that the Library can offer parking in the lot at our East 38th Street Branch, which is closed on the Sunday, for the Church's use. No fee would be charged to the Church to use that parking lot.

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 8 – 2024, it was noted that this resolution received a favorable recommendation from the Facilities Committee. Mr. Lane seconded the recommendation. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye
Dr. Palacio – Aye	

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

9. Library Foundation Update

In the absence of Mr. Biederman, Dr. Palacio reviewed the Foundation's Update as follows:

News

Tickets to Circulate: Night at the Library, the Foundation's annual fundraiser, are now on sale: Circulate is March 16, 2024 at Central Library. You can purchase tickets and find more information on our website: <https://indyplfoundation.org/circulate>. We encourage you to share the event information.

Donors and Program Support

Major Donors: Ayres Foundation, Inc.; Blue & Co.; Corteva; Dynamark Graphics Group; IndyGo Foundation; LiveNation Worldwide, Inc.; R.B. Annis Educational Foundation; The Swisher Foundation, Inc.; and West Indianapolis Development Corporation.

Program Support in the amount of \$90,000 was provided to the Library for: Pathway to Literacy; Seed Library; Healthy Body, Healthy Mind; Bunny Bags and Concert Series.

It was noted that Mr. Biederman joined the meeting via Zoom at 8:15 pm.

10. Report of the CEO

a. Confirming Resolutions

1) Resolution Regarding Finances, Personnel and Travel (9 – 2024)

After full discussion and careful consideration of Resolution 9 – 2024, the resolution was approved on the motion of Dr. White, which was seconded by Dr. Palacio, and the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Mr. Lane – Nay	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

b. Report of the CEO – January 2024

Mr. Gregory Hill, the Library’s CEO, provided information on the best programs of 2023 which had been organized by various departments and committees within the Library. For instance, Meet an Author, Be an Author had 300 attendees, Fall Fest was attended by 331 people and there were 70 vendors at the Community Resource Fair.

c. Strategic Planning Update

Ms. Marianne McKenzie, Strategic Planning and Assessment Officer, discussed the Update noting that the new Strategic Plan will include: Mission Vision and Values; Strategic Priorities; Goals and Objectives.

There will be committees formed to help with the process of creating the Plan which should be completed in August 2024.

d. Legislative Update on SB32

Mr. Michael Williams, Manager, Special Projects, advised that Senate Bill 32 which would have stripped public libraries of their taxing authority, was not heard in committee. This may kill the bill. The Library will continue to monitor this matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. None.

NEW BUSINESS

12. **Resolution 10 – 2024** (Revised Correction to Room Rental Rates Included in 2024 Annual Resolution)

Mr. Russell Brown, the Library’s legal counsel, advised that he had mistakenly listed some incorrect rental rates on the previously approved Annual Resolution. The correct rates are as follows:

	<u>Non-Profit</u>	<u>For Profit</u>
East Garden	\$1,500	\$2,000
Simon Reading Room	\$2,500	\$3,000

After full discussion and careful consideration of revised Resolution 10 – 2024, Dr. White made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Lane, to approve revised Resolution 10 – 2024. The resolution was approved on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Biederman – Aye	Dr. Palacio – Aye
Mr. Lane – Aye	Ms. Tribble – Aye
Dr. Murtadha – Aye	Dr. White – Aye

The resolution is appended to, and made a part of, these minutes.

DISCUSSION AND AGENDA BUILDING

- 13. Future Agenda Items** – This time is made available for discussion items not on the Agenda which are of interest to Library Board members and the opportunity to suggest items to be included on future Library Board Meeting Agendas.

Items suggested for upcoming Board Agendas are as follows:

February 2024 – Mr. Lane requested that the Community Advisory Board of the Encyclopedia of Indianapolis project be invited to attend the Library Board’s February 26, 2024 meeting.

INFORMATION

14. Materials

- a. **Notes of January 11, 2024 Diversity, Policy and Human Resources Committee Meeting.**
- b. **Notes of January 9, 2024 Facilities Committee Meeting.**
- c. **Notes of January 9, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.**

15. Board Meeting Schedule for 2024 (Notice of Date and Place of Meeting) and Upcoming Events

- a. **Board Meeting Schedule** for 2024 *will be updated as needed.*
- b. **Library Programs/Free Upcoming Events** may be found at attend.indypl.org.

16. Notice of Special Meetings

None.

17. Notice of Next Regular Meeting

Monday, February 26, 2024, for the Garfield Park Branch, which will be held at the Library Services Center, 2450 North Meridian Street, at 6:30 p.m.

18. Other Business

19. Adjournment

The Acting Secretary announced that there was no further business to come before the Board.

The Chairman then declared the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The January 22, 2024 Indianapolis Public Library Board Meeting is available to view at:

<https://www.indypl.org/about-the-library/board-meeting-times-committees>

Khaula Murtadha, Acting Secretary to the Board