

TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES  
Minutes of the Board of Trustees (BoT)  
Thursday, January 23, 2025  
7:00 PM at Tredyffrin Library

The meeting dates for the year were advertised in the 12/13/2024 issue of Daily Local. The meeting date for January was published on the Township e-newsletter on 12/31/24. The agenda was posted on the Library website 1/21/2025 and at the main entrance to the Library 1/21/2025. Copies of the agenda were made available for the public in attendance at the meeting.

**Presiding:** Rob Croner, President

**Board Members Present** (constituting a quorum):

Nancy Talley, Vice President  
Rob Rose, Treasurer  
Kristin Dormuth, Secretary  
Peggy McGarrity  
Marianne Murphy  
Stacy Stone

**In Attendance:**

Abby Cengel, Head Librarian, Paoli  
Mallory Hoffman, Director of Libraries  
Valerie Green, Assistant Director & Head of Technical Services  
KS Bhaskar, Supervisor, Tredyffrin Township Board of Supervisors  
Rachel Kramer, Fundraising  
Rebekka Schultz Thorpe, prospective board member  
Jonathan Trice, Head of Reference and Technology  
Sam Sorensen, Adult Programming & Community Outreach Coordinator  
Kate Currigan, Friends of Tredyffrin Library  
Leigh Ann Neclerio, prospective board member

**Absent:**

N/A

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Mr. Croner, President.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- There are two openings on the Board of Trustees. Interested parties can contact Mallory Hoffman or Rob Croner, or apply online.
  - Leigh Ann Neclerio is here to introduce herself for one of the vacant board positions
- Two openings remain on the Foundation Board. Contact Mallory Hoffman, Rob Croner, or James Kim with suggestions.

Two orientation dates for all board members: Paoli, Feb 27 and Tredyffrin, March 27

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA**

None.

### **4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Adoption of the agenda was unanimously approved.

### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimously approved

### **6. REPORTS**

#### **Director's Report – Mallory Hoffman**

- Ice on the roof caused multiple drips inside the library building. Dave Duda, the Tredyffrin project manager, has been by to conduct an examination. Possible solutions are pending.
- There are two new bank accounts (one each for Tredyffrin and Paoli), to replace the legacy accounts which are no longer held by current staff.
- The Chester County Legislative Breakfast is on Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Board members are encouraged to attend. Registration for speaking to a representative following the breakfast is due tomorrow (Jan 24).

#### **Paoli Library Report – Abby Cengel**

- Snow removal (contracted by the bank) has not included all of Paoli's parking lot, necessitating an additional morning's closure. Discussions with the contractor are ongoing.
- Adult programming has been successful in 2024, after hiring a dedicated adult programming coordinator.

#### **Friends of Tredyffrin Public Library – Kate Currigan**

- Ms. Currigan was awarded the Library Hero award at the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations to her!
- Year-end report: \$63,519 worth of books sold in 2024; \$41,320 was donated to the library.
- Jim Sjoreen, the current treasurer, is stepping down.
- The next donation day is this Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, from 10am-2pm. Members of the Conestoga Key Club will be assisting.
- The 2025 schedule of donation and sale days has been finalized.
- Ms. Cengel met with the treasurer of the Paoli Friends for an initial discussion. Unfortunately, volunteers for the group are scarce.

### **7. Committees**

- Ms. Stone reported that the Policy subcommittee met this evening prior to the Board meeting. Future meetings will occur the Thursday prior to the Board meeting, via Zoom. The committee revisited the Collection Development Policy. That discussion should

conclude on the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, to allow a recommended copy of the Policy to be distributed to the full Board ahead of the February 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- Ms. Murphy reported that the Strategic Planning Committee met on January 14<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the staff comments. In addition, the strategic goal headings were reviewed. As Chester County Library System may not release their strategic plan in the near future, the committee plans to release an addendum to the current Strategic Plan with additions for current issues (makerspace, DEI, etc). Mr. Croner concurs that the Board should regularly review the current Plan and any updates, even though the full Plan may not be available yet. Ms. Hoffman reports that the Chester County Commissioners will need to finish crafting their updated Strategic Plan prior to the Chester County Library System crafting the Library strategic plan, after which Tredyffrin Public Libraries can craft ours.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

### **Treasurer's Report - Rob Rose**

- The 2024 forecasts were nearly accurate to the final budgetary numbers.
- Mr. Rose also provided the Tredyffrin Township budget for the Board's edification. It shows the breakdown of the Township's funds for personnel as well as the annual funding to the Library's budget.

### **Fundraiser's Report – Rachel Kramer**

- The Minigolf event raised over \$7000 for the Makerspace.
- The Library received a \$50K bequest from Mr. Robert Chenowith; \$10K will be used for a Storywalk and bench with the remainder going to the Foundation.
- The 2024 Donor Wall is in progress and is expected to be installed in March.
- On March 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a Board Orientation Meeting prior to the Board Meeting. The Orientation will begin at 5pm promptly.
- Similarly, there will be a Board Orientation at Paoli Library prior to the Board Meeting there on February 27<sup>th</sup>. The Orientation will begin the meeting, which starts at 7pm.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

- Mr. Trice and S. Sorensen provided the results of the website feedback survey. Many of the comments were related to the County's new catalog system (Vega), over which Tredyffrin has no control. Overall, the results indicated that the website is accessible and usable; modifications will be made based on actionable feedback. Page views are up 132% since the website conversion.
- No updates on the renovation discussion.
- As discussed at the December meeting, there is a budget surplus (nearly a full year's budget) held at a low-interest-earning account. Joe DiRocco, the Tredyffrin Township COO, attended the December meeting to discuss moving half of the surplus to a PLIGT Account (leaving about a 6-month reserve). After taking a month to consider, the Board voted to approve the motion.
- The Tredyffrin Township Libraries Board of Trustees would like to remove Beverly Michaels from the Bank of America account for Paoli Library, with account number: 5474976700761791, and add Mallory Hoffman (DOB: 11/18/1983).

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

- Rebekka Schultz Thorpe attended a Board Meeting for the second time, after introducing herself as a prospective Board Member at December's meeting. The Board

voted to formally nominate her as a Board Member. Her nomination now moves to the Tredyffrin Township Board of Supervisors.

- Leigh Ann Neclerio attended to introduce herself as a prospective Board Member. Her application, as well as that of Praveen Chelli, will continue in the nomination process.
- Rob Rose was unanimously re-elected as Treasurer of the Library Board of Trustees.
- Nancy Talley is resigning as the Vice President of the Library Board of Trustees. The Board thanks her for her service! Board Members interested in this role should contact Rob Croner.
- SAC (System Advisory Council) Representative: Chester County Library Directors and Trustee Board Members meet quarterly to discuss county- and state-related topics. Nancy Talley has served in this position and is also resigning this assignment. Board Members interested in this role should contact Rob Croner.
- The discussion of the By-Laws for the Board of Directors has been tabled until the February meeting due to time constraints. Board Members are encouraged to review the distributed document prior to the next meeting.

#### **10. TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**

Murph Wysocki will be attending February's meeting, as the Board of Supervisors representative, as Mr. Bhaskar will be in India.

#### **11. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **12. ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:41 pm.
- Next meeting: February 27th @ 7:00 pm at Paoli Library.