

TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP LIBRARIES  
Minutes of the Board of Trustees (BoT)  
Thursday, April 24, 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):

Stacy Stone, Vice President  
Rob Rose, Treasurer  
Kristin Dormuth, Secretary  
Peggy McGarrity  
Nancy Talley  
Rebekka Schultz Thorpe

**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  
Jonathan Trice, Head of Reference and Technology  
Sam Sorensen, Adult Programming & Community Outreach Coordinator  
Kate Currigan, Friends of Tredyffrin Library  
Amy Conard, patron  
Joe DiRocco, Tredyffrin Township COO  
Rob Williams, Tredyffrin Township Historical Commission

**Absent:**

Praveen Chelli

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mr. Croner, President.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- There is one opening on the Board of Trustees, representing Willistown. Interested parties can contact Mallory Hoffman or Rob Croner, or apply online.
- There are two committee vacancies, one each on the Policy and Bylaws Subcommittee and one on the Planning Committee.
- Two openings remain on the Foundation Board. Contact Mallory Hoffman, Rob Croner, or James Kim with suggestions.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA**

None.

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

Adoption of the agenda was unanimously approved.

#### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

#### **6. SPECIAL GUESTS**

##### **1. Rob Williams, Tredyffrin Township Historical Commission**

The Historical Commission has two main purposes: educate residents and preserve historical buildings. Mr. Williams was here to discuss the US semiquincentennial; 2026 will be 250 years since the Declaration of Independence was signed and read. Mr. Williams suggests the Library consider programming related to the celebration. Handouts were given with information and ideas. One suggestion was to coordinate with local historians who have written books in the Library's collection. Mark Dickson will act as the Historical Commission's liaison to the Library. Chester County Library System already has a committee meeting regularly to develop county-wide plans.

##### **2. Joe DiRocco, COO Tredyffrin Township**

Mr. DiRocco said that the appropriate funds will be deposited into the PLIGT account next week. He also updated the Board on the proposed building renovations. The architectural firms consulted advised that the building be expanded, given the existing space constraints that will be exacerbated as time continues. Estimates for the project were between \$20-40M, which was infeasible for the Township. Mr. DiRocco suggested engaging the community to prepare for a possible capital campaign effort. Ms. Kramer recommended that there should be a feasibility study to determine if such an effort would even be possible, given that the amount is so much higher than our current fundraising income. Mr. Croner asked about potentially moving the Library to another facility; Mr. DiRocco said that such a move would be considered a last resort. Mr. Bhaskar agreed that such a move would need to have support from the community. Mr. Croner also asked about a new facility for Paoli Library; Mr. DiRocco suggested that if the current facility continues to be used, interior renovations could be considered.

#### **7. REPORTS**

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

- There has been communication with the paper retrieval company to fix the container which is missing a lid.
- The Library has been late on several PECO bills, as the payment must go through Chester County and checks are only cut once a week. Discussions are underway to consider moving the Library's funds into a separate account so that payments do not need to go through Chester County.
- Circulation, program, and doorcount statistics are in the report provided on DropBox.

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

- Newspaper deliveries have been inconsistent.
- PA Humanities Council funding was used to create a Big Teen Art Week.
- Circulation, program, and doorcount statistics are in the report provided on DropBox.

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

- The first quarter of the year was financially successful.
- The next donation day is this Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The next sale will be June 13-15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Committees**

- Ms. Stone reported that the Policy subcommittee revised the Programming Policy, incorporating staff feedback. The revised policy will be distributed to staff once more before being brought to the Board for a vote. The next meeting will be May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, via Zoom.
- The Planning Committee is paused.

## **8. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

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

- The regular monthly report was not provided this month; the report will be uploaded to the Dropbox in the next week.
- There is a PA state law that 12% of the annual operating budget must be allocated to the Library's collection; Tredyffrin Township Libraries did not meet this target in 2024. There have been discussions on possible remediation plans, and updates will follow.

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

- The annual appeal will begin soon.
- There have been several unsolicited donations from grateful patrons, in consequence of the federal funding cuts.
- A renewal application to FLITE has been submitted.
- There is an upcoming donor appreciation night on Friday, May 16.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Nomination vote for Foundation Board – Leigh Ann Neclerio

The Board of Trustees voted to submit the nomination to the Tredyffrin Township Board of Supervisors for approval.

2. Nomination vote for Foundation Board – Kris Robie

The Board of Trustees voted to submit the nomination to the Tredyffrin Township Board of Supervisors for approval.

## **10. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Library Collection Development Policy

The policy was provided to the Board last month, for consideration. Minor revisions made since then were reviewed. The Board approved the policy.

2. Library renovation update

Discussed previously, see point 6.2 above. Discussions among the Board will be ongoing.

3. Paoli Library Bank of America credit card update

No update.

## **11. TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**

None.

## **12. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

- The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:36 pm.
- Next meeting: May 22 @ 7:00 pm at Tredyffrin Library.