



**Berks County Public Libraries Board Meeting
August 15, 2018 7:00 pm
System Headquarters**

1. Call to order
2. Welcome and introductions
 - a. Camille Romig -Acting Director
 - b. Board Members- Charles Jones -Chair, Chris Daubert, Mary Edwards, Eve Kimball, Deborah Noel, Peter Schuchman, Andrea Vernon
 - c. Library representatives:

Pat Adams	-	Hamburg
Lisa Betz	-	Village Library of Morgantown
Erich Burch	-	Schuylkill Valley
Kelli Burgos	-	Bernville
Denise Darrah	-	Exeter
John Emerick	-	Spring Township
Phyllis Ernest	-	Bernville
Lois Geist	-	Fleetwood
Tom Kreider	-	Womelsdorf
Kevin Kurtz	-	Robesonia
Cheryl Martinozzi	-	Boone
Michael Murphy	-	Boyertown
Mike Najarian	-	Bethel-Tulpehocken
John Nelka	-	Sinking Spring
Ben Robitzer	-	Sinking Spring
Judy Schwambach	-	Muhlenberg
Mindy Wagaman	-	Kutztown
Rebecca Worley	-	Mifflin
Joanne Yoder	-	Kutztown
3. Minutes approved as amended; Michelle Kissinger from the Bernville Area Community Library was in attendance.
4. Treasurer – salaries down because of vacancies, we are in the second phase of the budget process – approved
5. Correspondence:
 - a. 2 brochures re library conference were circulated
6. Administrator report – see attached – highlights below
 - a. Libraries certified for Pennsylvania’s Power Library
 - b. Our website is now compliant with Access PA
 - c. Interviews for Outreach Services Coordinator are in progress
 - d. Story rider is solo – goes to each library once per month – well received

- e. Oral health story boxes are in all libraries. They fit in supporting PA Forward
- f. Filling Denise' position – Commissioners are interviewing or setting up interviews – process is unclear

7. Finance Committee

- a. The formula for 2019 was presented – see attached
 - i. 3 municipal edits were needed
 - 1. Robesonia (minor tweak) and
 - 2. Hamburg (numbers error) were tweaked
 - 3. Boone municipal support from Amity did not decrease as previously reported. The funding from Amity was \$16,750 not \$8,500. This made Boone eligible for the \$1 for \$1 match – Boone's \$1 for \$1 funding increased from \$8,666 to \$21,249. This increased overall \$1 for \$1 allocation by \$12,583, which lowered the rest of the county funding to be distributed by \$12,583.
 - ii. Changes based on member library feedback
 - 1. Changed state allocation for Base/Per Capita from 80/20 to 90/10
 - 2. Municipal Support > \$5 was created for 4 libraries who increased their per capita income
 - 3. Tax equalization board adjustment – increased from 4.5 to 5%
 - 4. Temporary funding threshold reduced from 5% to 4.5%
 - 5. Increased Circulation allocation from 61% to 63.25%
 - iii. John Nelka from Sinking Spring raised concerns that survey results from the libraries were not shared with the library directors – Mary expressed willingness to share the information – several others in the room felt that wasn't necessary
 - iv. John Emerick - from Spring Township has a hostile board because they will lose branch support of \$40,000 for their branch library – he understands why the formula needs to be as it is. It will be two years before they would lose the \$40,000.
 - v. Erica Burch – they never expected a report back when she submitted her list.
 - vi. Denise Darrah – requested Mary repeat the numbers – done.
 - vii. One good feature is that the formula can be tweaked after 2019 without massive overhaul.
 - viii. County budget will be available in late fall, state budget is approved and held essentially level (maybe up a little bit).
 - ix. Peter moved adoption, Chris second – passed.
 - x. Sinking Spring - John Nelka had a question regarding what happens if the municipal support fall below the minimum for a library as required by the state. Mary answered that she believes that through county funding we are providing the funding to be sure that libraries meet their minimum municipal support base as required by the state.

8. Advocacy Committee – Chris

- a. He is making calls to various state senators and representatives to ask for increased funding
- b. September 15, 2018 - the PA Citizens for Better Libraries has a forum in Pittsburgh on advocacy – www.PCBLpa.org

9. Old Business

- a. Uniform Requirements and Responsibilities for System Member Evaluation needs revision now that the funding formula is done – Pete - Chair, Chris, Eve, Charles will work on it

10. New Business

- a. None

11. Announcements

- a. Judy Schwambach –
 - i. August 25-26 – Riverfest for Muhlenberg Library
 - ii. September 8 from 6 am – 2 pm – hotdogs and pastries at Flea Market at Muhlenberg High School – will bring carts with books to sell
- b. Cheryl Martinozzi from Boone – New librarian Ryan McCrory from Seattle
- c. Wednesday – 7 November 7pm is the next meeting.

Next meeting: November 7, 2018 @ 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
C Eve J Kimball
Vice President/Secretary