

Indian Valley Public Library Board of Trustees April 17, 2025

Summary

The Indian Valley Public Library Board of Trustees meeting covered several key points. The board appointed Brad Alderfer to the vacant at-large seat and approved the consent agenda. The treasurer reported a decrease in interest rates to 4.12%. The director announced new hires: Sam Heckler and Connor as Services Assistant and Robin Frazier as Adult Services Librarian. The annual report was resubmitted to the state, and library usage statistics are back to pre-COVID levels. The board discussed the Keystone grant for HVAC system upgrades and the need for a joint meeting with the Foundation of Friends. The ALA conference in Philadelphia was also mentioned, with opportunities for board members to attend.

Call to order

Penny Price called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Appointment of At-Large Seat

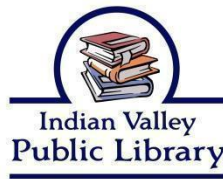
Penny Price appointed Brad Alderfer to the vacant-at-large seat with a motion by Kyle Rogers and a second by Beth Styer. Penny Price confirms Brad's ability to vote and participate in the meeting.

Roll Call

Penny Price, Elise Bowers, Kyle Rodgers, Beth Styer, Tracey Reed, Michelle Kane, Brad Alderfer, Absent : Suzi Leonard, Doug Johnson, Alex Grande

Consent Agenda

Consent agenda, which includes approving the minutes and financial report was passed unanimously.



Treasurer's Report Comments

Elise Bowers, treasurer reports no official meeting but notes a decrease in interest rates for their funds.

Director's Report

Director Tracey Reed provided updates on staffing, including new hires Samantha (Sam) Heckler-O'Connor, Youth Services Assistant, will be starting April 30th. Robin Frazier, Adult Services Librarian who will start May 14th. They both come with years of library experience.

Discussion on Annual Report and Salem Press Usage

Tracey reported that the annual report was submitted to the state and explained the annual report's purpose and the data it includes, such as financials, programs, and statistics. Tracey explained how the data is used for comparisons and how it is aggregated at the state and national levels. Tracey also discussed the low usage of Salem Press and its inclusion in the Power Library subscription.

Municipality Reports

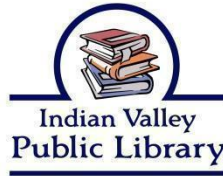
Several board members discussed their interactions with municipalities and the importance of regular updates. Tracey and Penny discussed the need for regular reports to municipalities and the benefits of having a line item on the agenda of the municipalities as well as the importance of thanking municipalities for their support.

Committee Reports

Since Suzi Leonard was absent Tracey provided an update on the facilities committee's activities, including the Keystone grant applications for HVAC system upgrade, which opens in July. The grant is awarded in January. Spring 2026 would be the earliest for any work to begin.

Foundation of Friends Report - Stephanie Ferretti

Stephanie announced a new member has joined the FOF Alex Wisser. There were two visitors attending the FOF meeting, Franconia supervisor Dave Fasio and former FOF board member Joe Devlin. The Bylaws were reviewed and okayed by their attorney. She discussed the Beer Fest event on July 19th and obtaining sponsorships. She mentioned the Mother's Day raffle basket at the library. Stephanie highlighted the need for volunteers for the Concert Sundays event and the importance of attending the donor appreciation event on May 21 at the Rising Sun.



Old Business: Code of Conduct and Joint Board Meeting

Tracey presented the updated code of conduct for legal review and approval. Kyle Rodgers moved to approve the code of conduct seconded by Michelle Kane and the board approved the motion. Penny Price discussed the scheduling of the joint board meeting with the Foundation of Friends, considering various dates and time. Tracey suggested coordinating with the Foundation of Friends to finalize the date and time for the joint meeting.

New Business: ALA Conference and Library Advocacy

Tracey discussed the American Library Association conference in Philadelphia and the possibility of board members attending. She mentioned the potential for free exhibit passes and the importance of library advocacy. She highlighted the impact of IMLS cuts on library funding and the need for budget adjustments. She also discussed the importance of library advocacy and the potential for a unified statement from the district.

Highlights of ALA:

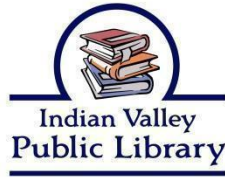
- June 27 430 to 4 to 5:30 is the opening general session with Governor Whitmer. George Takei is speaking Saturday morning.
- B'nai Brown is speaking Sunday afternoon.
- Joe Hill is speaking Monday morning.
- Grace Lynn is speaking Monday afternoon
- Geena Davis is the closing speaker on Monday night, four to five.
- Tracey will look over the schedule and take a look and see if there's any day that is better for trustees than others.

Advocacy Efforts and Public Comment

Tracey discussed the importance of library advocacy and the potential for a unified statement from the district. She mentioned the Eric Klinenberg event, author of "Palaces for the People", which was a celebration of libraries bringing library supporters into one room. Postcards were distributed to legislators for advocacy for libraries.

Penny Price shared a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt about the importance of human rights and community action.

Public Comment and Motion to Adjourn



Penny opened the floor for public comment. As there was no public comment Kyle Rodgers made a motion to adjourn and Brad Alderfer seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 AM.