



## **Indian Valley Public Library Board of Trustees May 15, 2025**

### **Opening the Meeting and Roll Call**

Michelle Kane officially opened the meeting of the Indian Valley Public Library Board of Trustees on May 15 at 8:02 AM. In attendance were Michelle Kane, Susie Leonard, Kyle Rogers, Tracy Reed, Brad Alderfer, Elise Bowers, Doug Johnson, Beth Styer, Alex Grande. Absent : Penny Price.

### **Approval of Minutes and Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was introduced, including minutes, treasurer's report, director's report, monthly statistics, report to municipalities, and committee reports. Elise Bowers pointed out a spelling error B'nai Brown in the minutes. The error was recognized and the correct spelling Brene Brown was noted. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Alex Grande and seconded by Kyle Rogers. The consent agenda was passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Foundation of Friends Update**

Stephanie Ferretti from the FOF provided an update on the foundation's activities, including the upcoming donor appreciation event with 80 registered guests scheduled for May 21 at the Rising Sun Barn. If the weather is too hot, we will meet in the outside tent. FOF member Shauna Boell was invited to discuss the Dinner and White event scheduled for September 6, she mentioned the need for 10 sober, RAMP-trained volunteers. Tracey explained the importance of having sober volunteers to comply with the Generations alcohol policy, which is the proposed venue for the event. There is a need for two more Ramp Trained volunteers. Stephanie reminded the Board of the Concert Sundays event on June 15 and encouraged members to sign up to help out serving the refreshments. Suzi Leonard is coordinator for the BOT volunteers.

The Beer Fest event is progressing well, with nine breweries and 13 vendors confirmed. Advertising efforts are underway, including flyers in shopping bags and posters in local stores. The importance of securing sponsorships and advertising to increase awareness of the Beer Fest event was highlighted.

### **Joint Board of Trustees and Foundation Workshop**

Tracey announced the joint workshop scheduled for June 11, from 6 to 9 PM, with dinner provided. The workshop will include a board overview and orientation by a district consultant librarian and a fundraising talk by Nick. Breakout sessions will follow the talks to discuss the topics further. The workshop is open to all board members, and an agenda will be sent out ahead of time.

## **Telford Night Market Volunteers**

Tracey requested volunteers for the Telford Night Market events in June, July, and August. The June date is June 18, additional dates are July 9th and August 13th. Volunteers are needed to staff the library table, talk to people about the library, and hand out brochures. The library staff provides all the supplies necessary for the volunteers. The importance of consistency in volunteer scheduling was emphasized. Tracey will send out an email asking for volunteers.

## **Board Discussion : Strategic Plan Review and Discussion on AI and Education**

Tracey proposed tabling the strategic plan review until the board president is present. Kyle asked if there is anything board members can do to prepare for the strategic plan review. Tracey explained that the strategic plan was last reviewed in 2022 and some tasks may have been completed but not checked off. A good way to prepare would be to review the plan which was sent out with the May packet. The review and setting priorities will be discussed at the next meeting. Brad shared insights from the Ezra Klein podcast on the decline in high school students reading books for pleasure. The impact of AI on education and its role in replacing critical thinking and writing skills is discussed. Tracey explained the library's use of AI as a tool and the challenges of AI-generated content in the hoopla collection. The importance of libraries as spaces for critical thinking and adaptable learning is emphasized.

## **Survey on Power Library Resources**

Tracey mentioned the importance of the Power Library resources, funded by IMLS, and the need for public input on their value. A survey will be posted on the library's Facebook page to gather feedback on the Power Library resources. The survey will help determine the impact of losing these resources if IMLS funding is cut. The public is encouraged to participate in the survey to support the library's efforts.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 with a motion from Alex Grande and seconded by Elise Bowers

Respectfully submitted Beth Styer Secretary

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