Wicomico Public Libraries
Board of Trustees Bimonthly Meeting
Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Audrey Orr, Michele Schlehofer, PhD, George Demko, PhD, Farah Yahya, Chip Dashiell, Esq., Ryan Bass, Brian Bergen-Aurand, PhD, Michele Canopii, PhD, Maida Finch, PhD, Karen Treber, Esq. and Shane Baker, County Council
Staff in Attendance: Seth Hershberger, Bobbi Schreiber, Aurelio Giannitti and Stephanie Daisey

Mr. Bass introduced a Motion to approve an Addition to the Agenda: The Committee Appointments and the Appointments for the Friends Foundation Task Force. The motion was seconded by Dr. Canopii and approved by all.

Previous Minutes: Dr. Finch made a Motion that the minutes of the June meeting be approved; Dr. Demko seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Reports: Mr. Dashiell went through the Consent Agenda Reports: Donations, Usage & Grant/Outreach, asking if there were any questions on each, individual report. Ms. Orr made a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda; it was seconded by Dr. Canopii and was passed. Aurelio and Stephanie informed the Board about the new STEAM Studio (formerly known as the Computer Lab) that we have been able to set up because of a Grant we received from Maryland State Library Association. Ms. Yahya expounded on the Friends’ Report and Dr. Schlehofer delivered the EDI Report. Seth shared that the EDI Committee, at their last meeting, reviewed a document explaining the structure and purpose of the committee that, when it is complete, will be brought to the Board for approval. As the representative of the Building Committee, Dr. Demko explained that they have reviewed plans from the architect for Parsonburg location and made some suggestions on which direction to go. Seth explained the Director’s Report as well as the Assistant Director’s Report and the Financial Report. Ms. Orr brought a Motion to approve the Financial Report and it was seconded by Ms. Treber and approved by all.

Shane Baker, from the County Council, reported that the Council has temporarily hired a new attorney to represent them, Bob Benson, replacing Andy Mitchell who is out on extended medical leave. Also, the council is working on a bill that would give all the volunteer fire fighters in the county a break on their taxes. Michele Gregory was not at the meeting so there was no City Council Report.

New Business: The Committees of the Board are as follows:

- **Executive Committee**- Chip Dashiell, Brian Bergen-Aurand, Ryan Bass, Karen Treber, Audrey Orr and Seth Hershberger
- **Nominating Committee**- Audrey Orr, Chip Dashiell and Brian Bergen-Aurand
- **Friends Committee**- Farah Yahya as Chair
- **Executive Director Evaluation Committee**- Audrey Orr, Chip Dashiell, Brian Bergen-Aurand, Karen Treber and Ryan Bass
- **Community Outreach Committee**- Ryan Bass as Chair
- **Building Committee**- George Demko as Chair, Brian Bergen-Aurand, Pattie Tingle and Chip Dashiell
• EDI Committee Liaison - Michele Schlehofer
• ESRL Committee Liaison - Maida Finch
• Open Meeting Act Officer - Brian Bergen-Aurand
• Friends Foundation Task Force - Farah Yahya, Audrey Orr, Karen Treber, George Demko, Ryan Bass, Scott Duncan, Susan Bounds and Seth Hershberger

Ms. Orr brought to the Board’s attention a need to change the Bylaws to reflect that the evaluation for the Executive Director be done in August rather than June as it reads now. This first reading of this proposal was met with a favorable impression and it will be voted on at the meeting in October. The Patron Code of Conduct Policy has been reviewed and revised by our Branch Manager, Bernadette Cannady, and our Community Support Specialist, Cristi Richardson. It was presented to the Board for a vote and Ms. Yahya made a Motion for approval. Dr. Finch seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Seth gave a Budget Review for Fiscal year 2023 and an update on the Strategic Plan for FY 2023 through FY 2027.

Ms. Treber brought Motion to Adjourn for an Executive Session at 5:35 pm. Dr. Demko seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The Executive Session is closed to the public pursuant to Section 3-305 of the State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland- Personnel Matters [3-305(b)(1)] Board will discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction; and will consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to the acquisition

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chip Dashiell, Board Chair