

North Wales Area Library Board Meeting Approved Minutes
March 26, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM

Present: Suzan Leonard, Jackie Oberholtzer, Hailey Nelson, Pam Wilson, Tanya Bamford, Joye Bramble, Pam Gallagher, Stephen Simchak, Jocelyn Tenney, Erin and Robyn from the Library staff, Board vacancy candidates Jeffrey Ferguson and Regina Powell

Absent: Jen DiMario

President's Report/Suzan:

- Proclamations: NWAL received two proclamations this week. On Monday and in honor of Library Week, Montgomery Township recognized NWAL as asset to the community. On Tuesday, NWAL was honored with a North Wales Borough Council proclamation highlighting the importance of the library to the community. Upper Gwynedd will honor the library next week. Board is hopeful for sustained local support, especially in light of loss of federal funding that trickles down to state support. Suzan encourages Board to think about possible institutional growth given the growing strength of the collective of local governments.
- Grant: PA Department of Community and Economic Development grant approved for 132K for our HVAC. Many requirements must be fulfilled to receive the money but award is very good news.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the Board's February meeting were approved per motion by Stephen and second by Suzan.

Financial Report/Hailey: Expenses exceeded income for February by about 16K resulting in deficit of 7K for first two months. Not unusual given that municipal money comes later in year. Cash position of about 261K includes new money market account, checking account, plus 4 CDs. Upper Gwynedd museum passes funded at 9K. One item to discuss

later: Gala deposit of 7K paid in January. JK has concerns about holding the gala but cancellation would mean loss of deposit.

Taste of Montgomery County/Jackie and Pam G: In good shape with seventeen vendors so far with another one possible. Need to confirm payment to St. Rose for \$775 rental. Additional room for seating would be \$125 more. Suzan would like Friends to have membership table at event. Saturday, April 5 is raffle basket day, 9 AM-noon. Will need to ensure access to supply closet. Stephen says we're in good shape with volunteers. Suzan will contact NRPD to be on notice that evening. Door hangers and posters are available for distribution. There is concern that Givebutter platform may be a bit confusing for some patrons regarding processing fees and tipping on event tickets.

Library Report/Robyn: Many grant applications submitted including VNA Grant for 15K and Chester County Erb Charitable Grant for 100K. Upcoming SPARK training (on ILS system) for staff on April 7. NWAL has new method via Norristown/Montco PL on how to issue Montco cards. There was a meeting with regional non-MCLink libraries re issuing cards. Annual staff reviews will begin in April. The annual State Report was submitted ahead of deadline.

Facilities/Joye: Approved for PA Community and Economic Assistance grant. Wrote RFP. Waiting to hear back on technical content. Waiting for list of companies to go out to bid. Also legal language needed. Suzan will review and consult with Rep. Liz Hanbidge office. "Invoice" for grant must be signed to ensure compliance.

Board interviews: Two candidates for one vacant Board seat are Jeffrey Ferguson and Regina Powell. Candidates introduced themselves. Board discussion followed their departure. Pam G. motioned that Regina Powell be offered the open position on the Board starting in April to fill the term of former board member Scott Cunningham. Seconded by Hailey. Measure passes. Suzan will delay notification until Monday to explore possible Board structure changes. Pam G. moved that if another Board vacancy opens up within 90 days, the Board extend an invitation to Jeffrey Ferguson to join the Board. Stephen seconded. Measure passed.

New Business: North Wales Borough raised its millage rate. Borough will distribute additional monies elsewhere. Jocelyn will look into it.

Old Business: Board contact information needs to be updated.

Meeting adjourned 8:37 PM.

**The next meeting of the NWAL Board is scheduled for
Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6:30 PM.**