

**Whiting Public Library
Regular Board Meeting
December 10, 2024**

Board Members Present:

Walter Wachel, President
Ashley Sudar, Vice President
Mary Lu Cowley, Secretary
Amy Holmes, Treasurer
Scot Kokandy, Board Member
Estela Waszak, Board Member

Board Members Absent:

Daniel Catlin, Board Member

Guests:

Darren Schretter, Studio GC (via Zoom)

Others:

Montserrat Inglada, Director
Mary Kershner, Assistant Director
Laura Lopez, Recording Secretary

Public:

A notice of the Regular Board Meeting was faxed to the Times on December 2, 2024. The notice was also posted at the Oliver Street and Ohio Avenue entrances on December 5, 2024.

Mr. Wachel, President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting – November 12, 2024

Mrs. Cowley moved:

THAT the minutes of the November 12, 2024, Regular Board Meeting be approved as submitted.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

Report from Board President

Mr. Wachel announced that the Friends of the Whiting Public Library will host a Holiday Bazaar event at the library on Saturday, December 14th.

Director's Report

√ Upon review, all expenditures were approved for November 16-December 15, 2024.

√ The Elks would like to borrow the library's laptops once again for their Annual Christmas dinner for the Great Lakes Naval Station recruits.

Ms. Sudar moved:

THAT the Board permit the use of the library's laptops for the Elks' holiday event so that recruits may check their email and chat with friends and family.

SECONDED by: Mrs. Holmes

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

√The new staff laptops are in, and John will set them up. Old laptops (over 5 years) will be wiped and recycled.

Mrs. Cowley moved:

THAT the Board permit the staff to be offered the old laptops for their personal use and the rest be recycled.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

√ The Whiting Robertsedale Chamber of Commerce will hold its Annual Installation Dinner on Friday, February 7, 2025 at the Dynasty Banquets in Hammond. If any board members are interested in attending, please let Laura or Mary know.

Building Renovation Update

Darren Schretter of Studio GC joined the meeting via Zoom to answer any questions from the Board.

Election of Officers, FY 2025

Mrs. Cowley moved:

THAT Mr. Wachel be nominated for the office of President.

SECONDED by: Ms. Sudar

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

There being no other nominations, nominations for President are closed.

Mrs. Cowley moved:

THAT Ms. Sudar be nominated for the office of Vice-President.

SECONDED by: Mrs. Holmes

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

There being no other nominations, nominations for Vice-President are closed.

Ms. Sudar moved:

THAT Mrs. Cowley be nominated for the office of Secretary.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

There being no other nominations, nominations for Secretary are closed.

Ms. Sudar moved:

THAT Mrs. Holmes be nominated for the office of Treasurer.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

There being no other nominations, nominations for Treasurer are closed.

Salary Schedule, 2025

Mrs. Cowley moved:

THAT the Board approve the FY 2025 staff salary schedule, with minimum salaries remaining at 2023 levels, and average and maximum salary levels being increased 3%.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

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Staff Salaries, 2025

Mr. Kokandy moved:

THAT the staff salaries for 2025 be approved as submitted.

SECONDED by: Mrs. Cowley

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

Request for Tuition Reimbursement

Adrienne DeLuna has met all the requirements outlined in our tuition reimbursement policy and is due to receive the 2nd installment of her tuition reimbursement for the Fall 2023 semester.

Mrs. Holmes moved:

THAT the Youth Services Librarian be reimbursed the 2nd installment (\$341.36) for Fall 2023 tuition, per policy.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

Resolution to Reduce LIRF Appropriations for 2024

Mr. Kokandy moved:

THAT the existing LIRF appropriation be reduced in the amount of \$35,275.00 which will reflect a \$0 budget for 2024.

SECONDED by: Mrs. Cowley

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

Resolution to Transfer Funds (2)

Mr. Kokandy moved:

THAT Resolution 12-24 (1), (2) be approved as submitted.

SECONDED by: Mrs. Cowley

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

Resolution to Transfer Funds to the Rainy Day Fund

Mrs. Holmes moved:

THAT the Board approve the Resolution to Transfer Funds to the Rainy Day Fund in the amount of \$144,571.40 which is 10% of our 2024 operating budget as allowed by Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.

SECONDED by: Mrs. Cowley

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

EN@ by Zayo, Contract

Mrs. Cowley moved:

THAT the contract with EN@ by Zayo be renewed at the annual price of \$21,360 with a discount of 80%.

SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy

ACTION: Carried Unanimously

Adjournment

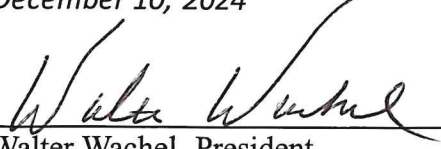
Mrs. Cowley moved:


THAT the meeting be adjourned.

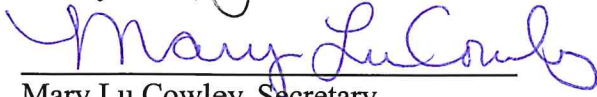
SECONDED by: Mr. Kokandy


ACTION: Meeting Adjourned 7:02 p.m.

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Walter Wachel, President

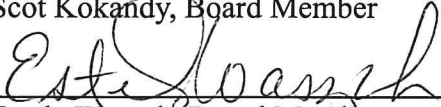

Ashley Sudar, Vice-President


Mary Lu Cowley, Secretary


Amy Holmes, Treasurer

Absent
Daniel Catlin, Board Member


Scot Kokandy, Board Member


Estela Waszak, Board Member

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Lopez

Reviewed by: Mary Lu Cowley, Board Secretary