

**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
In-Person and Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Monday, June 28, 2021**

Present: Elizabeth Greenberg (Acting Chair), Caitlin Powers (Treasurer), Pete Marcotte (Co-Treasurer), Monica Cataldo (Secretary), Margaret Ives, Lorraine Lindenberg, Rachael Armstrong (attending remotely), Erin Spencer (Town Council DPL Liaison), Eric Stern (Director).

Absent: Dr. Sarah Taylor (SAU Liaison)

Meeting was called to order at 5:32pm by Trustee Greenberg.

Correspondence:

- Director Stern distributed to the Board a correspondence from Catherine Prudhomme O'Brien regarding edit requests where she was mentioned in the June 14, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting. Trustee Greenberg read aloud the correspondence to the Board. Director Stern will update the draft public meeting minutes for June 14, 2021 to reflect the requested edits.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Saige Plumer-stated her opinion that false allegations have been made against Trustee Lindenberg and her visit to the Taylor Library Director was not political by any means and she did not violate any code of ethics.
- Trustee Lindenberg- commented how she never made any public comment voicing her opposition of the decision that the Taylor Library Director made. Everyone has constitutional rights and she does not want to be blamed for what someone else has said, nor has brought any negative attention to the libraries in the town. All people who made false comments on social media and notified WMUR should apologize to our community. She stated her opinion that she did not violate any code of ethics and has listened to all sides of the issue. Trustee Lindenberg offered two letters for public reading written by her friends who are a gay couple.
- David Love- Expressed his support for Trustee Lindenberg. Commented how the rule of the law should be honored, as well as constitutional rights and the Bill of Rights. Let's protect our children first. Derry Public Library is doing their due diligence, which Taylor Library never did when scheduling the Drag Story Time. To satisfy the public, he stated his view that something has to change so both libraries are not holding meetings on the same days.
- Catherine Prudhomme O'Brien- commented as a former Trustee and current state representative how the issue is people being afraid to speak up out of fear of mistreatment. She stated that Trustee Lindenberg made no violation regarding the Taylor Library's Drag Storytime event, and she then read through much of the trustee code of ethics. Preceding the initial cancellation of the event at Taylor, Ms. Prudhomme O'Brien stated that the Taylor Library phone went unanswered resulting in people not able to call in to express their support or non-support pertaining to the Drag Storytime event.
- Mark Veins- stated his view that Trustee Lindenberg was wrong to have gone into the Taylor Library to speak with the Library Director, and the DPL trustees should remember that when weighing their decision.
- Beth Nelson- stated that she believed it was very confusing to have a Trustee serving at both the Taylor Library and Derry Public Library. Derry Public Library should not have been pulled into the Taylor Library's controversy.
- Richard Tripp- former DPL Town Council Liaison suggested that speakers for public comment state and spell their names for the minutes.
- Julian Acciard- commented how he feels that the Taylor Library and Derry Public Library Board of Trustee Meetings should be held on different dates to allow the public to attend these meetings. He stated that there is conflict due to both libraries holding monthly meetings on the same days.
- Dan Mecke- stated that if the people of Derry elected Lorraine to both positions then the library should be accommodating her for both meetings. The people spoke and wanted Lorraine at both

libraries. He stated that he felt that they should figure it out so she can do her job that the town elected her for.

- Michael Layon- stated his view that it is unfair to discuss just Trustee Lindenberg. The person who scheduled the two library monthly board meetings is the problem. In his opinion the conflict is due to Taylor Library scheduling their trustee meetings on the same day.
- Colleen Briar- expressed her view that Trustee Lindenberg should not have to resign since both libraries have monthly board meetings on the same days.
- Tina Gilford- commented that if Trustee Lindenberg were to leave either board, the Derry Town Charter requires an Alternate be appointed until the next town election.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Address the recent publicized events at Taylor Library, as pertains to the trustee code of ethics and potential conflicts of interest, and discuss possible Board actions relating thereto
 - Trustee Cataldo discussed the Trustee Code of Ethics and Trustee Lindenberg's attendance with Derry Public Library's monthly board meetings over the past few months. Trustee Cataldo mentioned that Trustee Lindenberg has not been able to provide 100% of her time as a Trustee, noting dates when Trustee Lindenberg was absent from meetings, and expressing her opinion that it is a conflict being a Trustee at two libraries. Derry Public Library Board members can attend remotely and in person now to monthly meetings.
 - Trustee Powers mentioned a resource listed on the NHLTA website, specifically tip sheet #11, "12 Golden Rules for Board Members." Trustee Powers also expressed understanding how Trustee Lindenberg's comments could have caused concern to DPL staff. Trustee Powers asked Trustee Lindenberg if she received and completed the onboarding materials.
 - Trustee Lindenberg agreed there is a conflict, and stated that the way her comment on social media was worded was misleading and she apologizes. Trustee Lindenberg said that no additional action is needed from the Derry Public Library to provide her with additional onboarding material. Trustee Lindenberg agreed with Trustee Cataldo that there is a conflict in attending two Board meetings at both libraries, and as a result, has decided to resign from the Taylor Library.
 - Trustee Greenberg shared how there is some confusion in the community regarding how Taylor Library and Derry Public Library have separate boards and separate leadership, because they are completely separate libraries. Trustee Greenberg reiterated that Trustee Lindenberg has decided to resign from the Taylor Library Board of Trustees, and thanked her for staying with Derry Public Library. Trustee Greenberg discussed how in her opinion, Trustee Lindenberg did violate some things in the Trustee Code of Ethics while speaking publicly as a Trustee and that moving forward, the Board has to speak as one body.
 - Trustee Lindenberg commented she got legal advice on this matter and was speaking as an individual and said "I" not "we" in that one statement on social media, which seems to be the focal point of discussion.
 - Trustee Ives asked for clarification from Trustee Lindenberg, that Trustee Lindenberg would in fact be resigning from the Taylor Library Board of Trustees, and Trustee Lindenberg repeated that she would be resigning from the Taylor Board of Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Ives. Seconded by Trustee Marcotte. Motion passed 7-0.

- Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.

Next meeting is Monday, July 19, 2021, 6:30pm, in Meeting Room B
Minutes respectfully submitted by Danielle Mullins, Recording Secretary