

**Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees**  
**Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m. - February 13, 2025**

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**Board Members Present:** Brown, McClellan, Snead, Snodgrass,

**Board Members Absent:** Muthukuda, Murphy, Doby, White

**Staff Members Present:** Siegrist, Baker, Showich-Gallup, Peterson

**Staff Members Absent:** None

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Ernie McClellan.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No Quorum

**PRESENTATION**

**Kate Knight, Executive Director Farmington DDA**

DDA believes in Placed-Based Community Development

- Investment in Public Spaces – Enhancing walkability & livability of Farmington supporting property values within the community.
- Public Private Partnership incentives investment – example a private boutique bookstore has now opened up in downtown Farmington, a first for Farmington & Farmington Hills
- DDA has been pulling in a wider array of visitors than in previous years.
- Mason’s corner is currently being renovated – a 100 years lease with the Mason’s lodge. 400 donors contributed to the construction of Mason’s corner.
- Construction on projects like these has been covered by donors, grants, the DDA, and the city of Farmington.
- The Unity Torch is being installed the first patron supported art commission, dedicated to the people of Farmington.
- Bicentennial alley has been installed between Fresh Thyme and Salon Suites. This included new lighting, and a timeline mural along the alley.
- The Art Park promenade will be installed in the next three years connecting Riley Park to Shiawassee Park, which will also connect to the Hillside Townes development. This is currently under design.

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- The DIA PIPA mural program brought a vibrant Rick Malt installation to Sundquist Pavilion at Riley Park.
  - DDA supported the Bicentennial Celebration; a yearlong campaign with multiple community organizations.
  - DDA was a GAMSAs National Semi-Finalist.
  - Farmington DDA was elected as the organization of the year by the Michigan Downtown Association.
  - Approximately 8 small businesses have opened in Downtown Farmington in the past year.
  - DDA reached 492K people through social media accounts, including Facebook and Instagram. This includes reach and marketing of library funded events.
  - New Cultural Programming has been a recent focus, including Farmington it, the Dinan Park Music Series, and the Pride Campaign.
  - The Grand Raven Festival has run for 5 years.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Sophie – Explained history of Palestine, and the current conflict between Israel and Palestine. The speaker expressed concern Library gave legitimacy towards the Israeli occupation by hosting Israeli focused event in December of 2024. She is asking for a member to give a lecture on the current conflict and the historical events in Palestine.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of December Minutes is deferred to the next meeting due to a lack of quorum.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Approval of December operating bills is deferred to the next meeting due to a lack of quorum.

Financial Reports

#### **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

- There is an effort to reconsider how they approach fundraising, and raise involvement & commitment to the Friends, and to the Library.
- There will be a book sale at the end of April.

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## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- March board meeting is at the Farmington location
- Battle of the Books is April 11 from 7-9
- State of the cities will be Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 7:00-8:30, with a business expo preceding. This will take place at the Hawk
- FCL will be seeking a Bosch Grant to fund a variety of library needs. Applications are due at the end of the February.
- A local artist proposed an Art project to the library. This may be referred to the facilities committee.
- The Seed Library kickoff event will be on Sunday, March 9.
- Sally Campbell has official announced her retirement. Her last day will be June 27<sup>th</sup>. This position has been posted.
- FCL has a received our ADA Assessment from the Disability Networking Eastern Michigan,
- We have received an Arts & Humanities Touring grant from the Michigan Humanities Association. This grant will be used to to bring in Flamingo dancers.
- The pavers at the entryway to the FH location may need replacement. Some of them are unreadable. The pavers could be installed as a wall. The facilities will discuss this further.
- We received positive comment from a patron regarding an MLK day event.
- Sona Avedikian is the graphic designer for FCL. Examples of events she creates graphics for are AAPI Heritage Celebration, the Library Extravaganza, Summer Reading, Grown & Give Back, among many others. She is a graduate of the College for Creative Studies. We sincerely thank Sona for her amazing work.
- Haily is the Marketing Coordinator for FCL. She's a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. She is happy to apply her talents to a place that she really loves. She develops copy and distribute marketing materials throughout the library system. She helps with scheduling and distribution social media content. She also puts together newsletters, and creates video for FCL socials.
- The Director distributed Library Output Statistics for January 2025.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### Tax Captures

A proposal will be shared with the board in March for approval. One stipulation of the

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proposal will be that we would receive feedback from Tax Capturing organizations, and that the FCL board would make a commitment to be more involved.

There will also be clarification on the language FOR the amount that the FCL would contribute to the Tax Capture organizations.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES**

#### Finance (K. Brown)

- In the future, this report would be included in the treasurer's report.

#### Facilities (S. Snodgrass)

- We have received quotes on digital signs. Our intention is to spend less than \$55,000 for signs.
- There has also been work on the elevator at the Farmington Location.
- There has also been a discussion on car charging stations.
- There was discussion on roof covering for the locker boxes. It will cost \$7,500 to put a roof over them, and \$2,000 in annual maintenance.
- Steve Schneemann has helped with long range facilities planning, focusing on a timeline for the master plan. Steve expressed concern that a phases project of this size/amount many not attract many large firms.

#### Personnel Committee

- Committee met with the director in January.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Voting These items will be deferred until we have a quorum. There was discussion on the following:

- The Minimum Wage Motion is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.
- A new programming policy was presented. There was discussion on the current meeting room rental policy.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

S. Charlebois – A name plaque that could possibly be placed outside of the bathroom would possibly be a novel, innovative idea.

**TRUSTEE COMMENT**

E. McClellan - discusses how we can innovatively communicate with the public and solicit donor support.

S. Snodgrass – Pointed out a recent media story regarding the Wayne Library accounting error.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM. The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Snead, Trustee  
Library Board of Trustees

SS:ks