

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
CAMBRIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
May 21, 2025

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Cambria Library Association was held in the Conference Room of the Cambria County Library on May 21, 2025.

Members Present: Bill Lantzy, Marlin Plymette, Yamila Audisio, R. Cooper Edwards

Members via Phone: Alan Metzler

Members Absent: Abby Panek, Rev. Sylvia King, Cathy Torok, Heidi Niebauer

Others: Ashley Flynn, Joel Wagner, Leanne Zdravecky, Maria Cuccaro, Kristen Panek, Amanda Hooper, Laryssa Bremer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4 PM by Bill Lantzy.

Staff Spotlight:

A staff spotlight was given to the library's Children's department, represented by Kristen Panek, Amanda Hooper, and Laryssa Bremer. Kristen explained her role as the youth services assistant, which includes leading story times and creating videos for YouTube. Amanda discussed on of her projects, First Chapter, where she creates videos to introduce readers to new books via their first chapters. Laryssa shared her love for the library, and noted that her experience in a public school setting aligns well with her work here. They showed videos from story time, First Chapter, and other highlights from the department.

District Consultant's Report:

Bill had a question regarding the new directors that were hired for some of the libraries and if they meet the educational requirements. Maria clarified that they don't have the library credits but do all have at least bachelor's degrees.

County Coordinator's Report:

No questions

Minutes of April 16, 2025

A motion to accept the minutes of April 16, 2025 was made by Yamila Audisio and was seconded by Cooper Edwards. All were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Cooper reviewed the treasurer's report and explained the discrepancies between the budget and actual amounts. He also confirmed the audit is underway with Barnes Saly and should be done on time.

Director's Report:

A) Library Services

Ashley said planning for SummerQuest is underway. The third floor is temporarily shut down while the floor renovations are taking place, with their services relocated to the first floor. The project is largely complete, with plans to reopen on Tuesday, May 27.

B) Third Floor Updates

Thanks to everyone's efforts, we were able to consolidate our collections and free up shelves and space on the third floor, which we will be able to use for future programming. A particular highlight was given to the chess club that is run here, which has been expanding and exploding with popularity of late.

C) First Floor Updates

The first floor is being worked on, with another meeting with Ken Faux being planned. We're moving forward in the design phase. Particular attention is given towards being able to remove the asbestos in the building.

D) CareerLink

We're working with Abby to draft an updated lease agreement, and we've been working with GBBN to plan their updated space and understand the costs associated with that portion of the renovation.

E) SPP Program

John Kriak has been helping with the Special Priority Project tax credit program. We are currently drastically under our initial goals for the program, which requires us to reevaluate our application. We are still moving forward and are reevaluating our plans for the money, and will use our experiences from this year to change our approach for future years.

F) E-rate

Ashley has been working on e-rate. We are waiting to receive our funding commitment letter for the category two program, and are waiting for more information on how to bid for those services.

G) Fine-Free Progress

We are moving forward with fine free. Cresson and Portage public libraries will continue to maintain fine policies but all other libraries in the system will go fine free. We've been working with Evergreen to implement this change as well as new policies that will go into place with the change.

H) Langerholc Meeting

Alan and Ashley met with Senator Langerholc requesting an increase to the public library subsidy. The senator shared his perspective on the state budget situation. Leanne and Cooper put together a spreadsheet that shows how state aid has fallen short for the libraries in relation to inflation, and we have provided that information to the Senator at his request.

I) State of the City Address

Leanne and Ashley attended the state of the city address, and were disappointed the city manager did not include anything about the library in his speech despite us providing photos and information that he could include.

Committee Reports:

A) Governance

Abby not present. Ashley asked everyone to review their committee appointments if there's anything they'd like to add or change.

B) Finance

Cooper noted that our district aid, which is typically received in late summer, will likely be delayed until fall. Options to best bridge the gap in funding were discussed. We also received our employee retention credit tax refund we had filed for from the IRS. A discussion was held about the status of that and how to approach those funds. Lastly, Cooper went over the current status of our budget.

C) HR committee

No report from Alan.

D) Building

We're awaiting the transfer of the deed for the parking lot to be transferred and Abby is working with the county solicitor to make sure that goes the way it's supposed to.

E) System

A meeting will be held soon.

F) Technology

Cathy not present.

Old Business

A motion to use \$500,000 from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies investment fund to increase the budget of the first-floor project was made by Marlin Plymette via email on May 13, 2025. The motion was seconded by Abby Panek, with Bill Lantzy, Sylvia King, Alan Metzler, Cathy Torok, Cooper Edwards, Yamila Audisio, and Heidi Niebauer were all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:53 PM, and the next meeting will be held on June 18.