



Board of Trustees Regular Meeting MINUTES

Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 4:00pm
McGuire Community Room
610 Woodmere Ave., Traverse City, MI 49686

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Pakieser at 4:00pm. Present were: Pakieser (President); Deyo (Vice President); Odgers (Treasurer); Gedman (Secretary); Vickery (arrived at 4:01), Jones, and Beuthin (Trustees). Also present were: Howard (Director); Morey and Carpenter (Staff).

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

All members in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

3. **Resolution Acknowledgement: Michigan Appreciation Month**

Howard noted that libraries are vital organizations, of which there are 393 libraries in the state of Michigan. President Pakieser acknowledged the sentiment and the resolution by the Michigan Library Association that October has been designated as Michigan Library Appreciation Month.

4. **Approval of the Agenda**

Howard requested an amendment to the agenda to move item 10c, Director Review and Compensation, to item 13 in the format of a closed session to consider the Director evaluation as allowed under the Michigan Compiled Laws 15.268(a). It was MOVED by Vickery, SUPPORTED by Odgers, to approve the agenda with the amendment of items 10c and 13 as requested by Howard. Motion CARRIED.

5. **Public Comment**

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. The following people addressed the board: Mike Mulcahy noted his love for the library and its staff, which he frequents often and repeated a prior request to the board to remove the Queer Tales Book Club from TADL's programming.

6. **Consent Calendar**

a. *Approval of Minutes:*

Regular Meeting of August 21, 2025

Strategic Planning Study Session of September 18, 2025

b. *Department Reports*

c. *Finance and Facilities Committee Report – did not meet in September / August 12, 2025*

d. *Policy and Personnel Committee Report – did not meet in September / August 12, 2025*

e. *Financial Report*

f. *Member Library Communications – FLPL | IPL | PCL*

g. *Friends of TADL Report – Jud Barclay, President*

h. *Correspondence*

It was MOVED by Beuthin, SUPPORTED by Odgers to accept and affirm receipt of the Consent Calendar items as presented. Motion CARRIED.

7. **Items Removed from the Consent Calendar**

No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.

8. **Director Report**

Howard confirmed her written report and added the following:

- The State budget has been finalized and libraries received an extra one-time \$900,000 for Mel and MelCat. The federal budget is not yet complete.
- Molina Health has provided resources to provide Health Care Kits focused on dementia and memory disorder care.
- TADL was awarded a \$10,000 Rotary grant to pay for architectural plans for a rain garden outside the Sight & Sound Department.

9. **Presentation: Aspen Preview by Scott Morey, Assistant Director for Technology**

Morey, Assistant Director for Technology, gave a sneak preview demonstration of the new online public catalog scheduled to launch in November. The current catalog has been in use for ten years and has served TADL well with millions of searches and thousands of holds placed. To continue its optimal usefulness, it would require a significant portion of the program to be rewritten as much has changed over ten years, especially with growth of digital resources. Foremost, the new Aspen online catalog will result in richer, more complete search results and easier to access to the materials in the collection. It also has many new and improved features that patrons will appreciate regarding their account and searching capabilities. The Aspen online catalog is a community developed open-source solution to upgrading the current catalog and is successfully used by thousands of libraries.

10. **New Business**

a. *Request for RFP for Cleaning/Custodial Services*

Boulter, Facilities Manager, has been getting cold calls for cleaning services. Howard and Boulter felt that it may be a good time to seek cleaning bid proposals since the last time a new cleaning service was obtained was in 2011. It was MOVED by Jones, SUPPORTED by Odgers, to authorize the Director to issue a request for proposals for building cleaning services. Motion CARRIED.

b. *Request to hold a Staff Holiday Party and serve alcohol after hours on December 5, 2025*

Howard asked the board for permission to hold an afterhours Holiday Party for staff and their families with food and beverages, including alcohol on December 5th. Howard would pay for the party and no tax dollars would be used for the event. It was MOVED by Beuthin, SUPPORTED by Gedman, to approve Howard's request for a staff Holiday Party as presented. Motion CARRIED.

c. *Director Review and Compensation*

This item was moved to item 13.

11. **Public Comment**

President Pakieser opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

12. **Trustee Comment**

Deyo thanked McKenna and Molina Health on the collaboration and addition of Stay Sharp Kits in the collection. This concept is a very effective and great way to support the community for those with memory disorders.

President Pakieser noted that she and Beuthin participated in the Strategic Planning Retreat and it was a pleasure to work with the staff. She thanks them for their hard work every day.

13. **Closed Session**

It was MOVED by Buethin, SUPPORTED by Gedman, to go into closed session to consider the Director Evaluation as allowed under Michigan Compiled Laws 15. 268 (a). A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Odgers – aye	Gedman – aye	Jones - aye
Beuthin – aye	Deyo – aye	Vickery – aye
Pakieser – aye		

Motion CARRIED with 7 aye. The meeting entered into closed session at 4:30.

The meeting then resumed open session at 5:14pm.

It was MOVED by Beuthin, SUPPORTED by Gedman, to accept the Personal Review of the Director and provide a raise of seven-percent (7%) for reflecting her performance and a cost-of-living raise. Vickery commented that the raise was symbolic of the deep appreciation of the Director being attentive to all levels of information pertinent to the library: national, state and local. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

14. **Adjournment**

Upon a motion by Odgers, supported by Gedman, for adjournment, President Pakieser adjourned the meeting at 5:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by board vote on November 20, 2025

V. Carpenter, Recording Secretary

S. Gedman, Board Secretary