

**Howard Miller Library Advisory Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Present:** Terry Allen, Amanda Hanson (staff), Mary Wilkos (Chair), Kate Kraak, MaryBeth Timmer, Barb Dannenberg, Alison Reese

**Absent:** Lynette Lam

Meeting called to order 4:32pm.

Minutes from the September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting were approved as written.  
M-MaryBeth Timmer, S-Mary Wilkos - Passed unanimously.

**Staff Introduction:** AnnMarie Willette, Librarian I, was introduced to the Board. She was in August and is a retired Middle and High School teacher from Saugatuck, MI. She likes mysteries and crime books.

**Director's Report:**

- A. Fall 2024 programming is in full swing – additional sessions of the Toddle Laptime and Preschool sessions have been added to accommodate larger crowds.
- B. Staffing updates: we will be fully staffed after our 2 newest Librarian I hires start: Carol Talsma begins October 21<sup>st</sup> and Megan Hoeksema begins November 12<sup>th</sup>.
- C. The first part of the project is complete and issues of the Zeeland Expositor from 1893-1896 are viewable online here:

[Zeeland Expositor — Browse by title — Digital Michigan Newspapers Collection \(cmich.edu\)](#)

Issues of the Zeeland Record from 1897-1912 are viewable online here:

[Zeeland Record — Browse by title — Digital Michigan Newspapers Collection \(cmich.edu\)](#)

**Old Business:**

- A. Staff Day Recap: The library was closed to the public for their annual staff development day of trainings and Robyn Shopp of Gordeaux Consulting led the team in an exploration of the 6 Working Geniuses by Patrick Lencioni. 15 staff members attended.
- B. Olive Township update: Questions have slowed from the public around this issue. Amanda H. continues to speak to the public about the situation and the different possibilities of what could happen depending on the outcome of the vote in November.

**New Business:**

- A. Approval of Library Advisory Board meeting dates for 2025.  
M-Mary Wilkos, S-MaryBeth Timmer - Passed unanimously.

B. Overview of Conversation Camp attended by Amanda H. held by the Library of Michigan on September 4-5.

1. Provided good insights into how to have conversations that matter and how to guide discussions towards productive and positive outcomes.
2. This was Amanda H.'s first visit to the Library of Michigan in Lansing.

C. Zeeland Charter Township library services contract renewal process overview

1. Amanda H. and Kevin Plockmeyer of the City met with the township manager, Josh Eggleston and treasurer, Melissa Veldheer and came to an agreement on the payments from the township to the City for the next contract term 2025-2027.

No public comment.

No Board comment.

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm. M-Mary Wilkos, S-Alison Reese.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.