



**Delaware County Libraries
Board of Directors
MINUTES
Thursday, April 17, 6:30 p.m.**

1. Call to Order – 6:30pm by H. McGrane

Present: J. Allen, J. Brangiel, H. McGrane, K. Standen

Absent: I. Baines, V. Maroun, J. Shulbank

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items - No Comments

3. Minutes: February 20, 2025 (McGrane)

Motion to approve made and seconded by Standen, Allen; unanimous approval

4. Communications & Announcements (Laepple)

a. National Library Week

Nation Library Week was celebrated April 6th-12th this year. Laepple made a presentation to County Council on April 2 and received a Resolution. DCL also hosted the 2nd Annual Read at Rose Tree event. Laepple thanks Jenny Reitmeyer and the Helen Kate Furness Free Library teens for attending. Laepple also congratulated the member libraries that worked with local municipalities on resolutions and proclamations to bring visibility to libraries during NLW.

b. Keystone Grants for Public Library Facilities awarded

Two member libraries were awarded Keystone Grants in this cycle:

- i. Darby Borough – interior renovation of 2-story library into cohesive accessible facility, with energy-conservation measures
- ii. Springfield Township – retrofit building to update outdated HVAC, elevator, lighting and roof

c. Library Foundation of Delaware County Museum Pass Grant

LFDC is again offering the Museum Pass Program grant for 2025. Each location will be reimbursed up to \$500.00 upon submission of a completed application and paid receipts by September 30, 2025.

Additionally, LFDC announced a one-time expansion of the program thanks to an anonymous donor who made a significant gift with the intent of supporting libraries that would most benefit. The Foundation board identified the Museum

Pass program as a match and have invited eligible libraries, those with fewer passes and smaller budgets, to apply for additional reimbursement.

d. Longwood Gardens Community Read

The Longwood Gardens Community Read Reading Challenge in Beanstack for ages 6 and up is April 16, and runs from May 31. Adults who complete the challenge will receive a voucher for admission to Longwood Gardens for up to 4 people and kids can earn raffle tickets for book prizes. *The Extraordinary Gardener* is currently featured at the StoryWalk in Rose Tree Park. Member libraries are offering programming which can be found on the DCL calendar.

e. Science in the Summer

14 libraries will be hosting Science in the Summer with a capacity for 282 children to participate. Sessions will take place in July and August and registration via LibCal is required. Kids in 2nd – 6th grade will have the opportunity to explore 5 careers in the health sciences. Children who complete the program will receive a voucher for free admission to The Franklin Institute.

5. Financial Report: March 31, 2025 (McGrane)

Motion to approve made and seconded by Standen, Allen; unanimous approval

6. Administrator's Report (Laepple)

a. Annual Report 2024

Each year all State Aided libraries are statutorily required to complete an "Annual Report" to the Office of Commonwealth Libraries. Library reports were due by March 10 for review by the District Consultant. The reports are now under review by OCL and additional edits may be required. Libraries are reminded that timely response to any edit requests from OCL is very important.

b. District Negotiated Agreement 2025-2026

In March DCL drafted the 2025-2026 DNA agreement using an OCL-provided template, the draft was then shared with all member libraries, and the DNA committee met April 10 to finalize the agreement. The final agreement was sent to all member libraries for review and verification. A simple majority of libraries must approve the agreement for it to move forward. Member library verifications are due no later than 4pm on May 23. Thank you to the negotiating committee with representatives from ME, MI, NO, RA, RP, and RT.

c. System-Wide Evaluation update

Members of the System-Wide Evaluation Task Force had their second meeting on Wednesday, March 19. During this meeting, the group decided that the first three priorities should be (1) advocacy support, (2) creation of a substitute pool, and (3) training and mentorship. The DCL workgroup is now reviewing these recommendations and preparing to move forward.

d. **Strategic Plan update**

The DCL staff has created an Implementation Plan, which is a tool to help us plan initiatives, take action, and record progress on the goals of the Strategic Plan. While finalizing planning, work towards strategic goals continues. Work on two goals was highlighted:

Goal #1 – To reach people in all areas of Delaware County: expanded Read at Rose Tree; participated in the Senior Expo hosted by State Senator John Kane and State Rep Leanne Krueger.

Goal #2 - Enhance advocacy to increase funding, Action Item – Utilize form function on delcolibraries.org to collect library impact stories: during February DCL collected stories and Laepple included quotes from several stories in presentation to Council, which added greatly to the impact of the presentation.

7. **Committee Reports (McGrane)** – No Committee Reports

8. **New Business (McGrane)** – No New Business

9. **Old Business (McGrane)**

Question regarding Haverford Township Free Library's building project progress.

Laepple shared the temporary library's last day of service will be Saturday, April 19, to move and the ribbon cutting at 1601 Darby Road will be on May 22.

10. **Public Comments (McGrane)**

- a. Stephanie (Helen Kate Furness Free Library) – shared about recent upgrades in the Children's Room. Also shared the upcoming Delco Gives Food Truck Friday event on April 25, which will include food trucks, lawn games, etc. \$10 donation
- b. Helen (DCLB) – encouraged people to tune into the PBS documentary *Free for All*, a new documentary about public libraries. Furness will host a screening on April 19 and Media Upper Providence Library will host a screening on May 9
- c. Jennifer (Ridley Township Public Library & Resource Center) – shared about their upcoming Spring Book Sale and Mini Golf events. She also shared that the library is processing about 150 passport applications a month and 30 Notary services per month.
- d. Anny (DCL) – announced the upcoming retirements of Monique Langford, Clerical Support, end of April, and Diane Arnold, Reference & Outreach Coordinator, end of May. She also welcomed new library directors: Rayna Whitright at Rachel Kohl Community Library and Karla Kaufman at Yeadon Public Library.
- e. Glenna (Aston Public Library), read by Jody Allen, Aston Library board sent advocacy letters to State Rep Krueger and State Senator Kane calling for state funding and reconsideration of the audit requirement.

11. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made and seconded by Standen, Allen; unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm

Next Meeting: June 26, 6:30pm

****REMINDER: meeting is the 4th Thursday due to the Juneteenth holiday***