

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 17, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at the Central Library and remotely pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Kimberly Johnson, Chair
Carima El-Behairy, Vice Chair
Alan J. Bedenko, Esq., Treasurer
Michael Amodeo, Esq.
Prof. Christine P. Bartholomew, Esq.
Kathleen Berens Bucki, MLS
Lucy Candelario
John D. Craik, Esq.
Sharon M. Kelly, Esq.
Christopher Sasiadek, Esq.

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. A call of the roll was taken. A quorum was present.

Agenda Item B – Approval/Changes to the Agenda. None.

Agenda Item C – Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2024. Trustee Bucki noticed an error in the Minutes: “motion” in the third to the last paragraph of Agenda Item K.1 should be changed to “motioned.” Trustee Amodeo motioned for approval of the Minutes as amended. Trustee Craik seconded, and this was approved unanimously as amended.

Agenda Item D – Report of the Chair. Chair Johnson announced that the Angola Public Library will be having their *Centennial Fundraiser Dinner* on Saturday, October 19. Chair Johnson and Trustee El-Behairy will be in attendance for that. She also shared that the Angola Public Library Board meeting was well attended and informative. Next, Chair Johnson shared that she has attended several galas this season, including the *Hispanic Women’s League Scholarship Gala* where Trustee Candelario was also in attendance. She announced that it was a beautiful gala that was very well attended and that the Library sponsored a table at the event. Following that, Chair Johnson shared that she attended the *BABEL: Sandra Cisneros* event held at Kleinhans on Thursday, October 10. The event was sublime, and Sandra Cisneros was well-spoken and friendly. She encouraged the Board to attend the next *BABEL* event on Wednesday, November 13, featuring author Tommy Orange.

Next, Chair Johnson shared that the *Books, Bites & Banter* event held at Big Ditch Brewing Company was well attended and fun. Following that, she informed the Board that the Central Library will be holding their 60th Anniversary Celebration on Friday, October 18, and encouraged them to attend. Chair Johnson also encouraged the Board to make their annual donations to the Library. Trustee Craik asked who to check with to make sure he donated, and he was advised to check with Development Manager Maureen Germaine.

Next, Chair Johnson shared that at the meeting held on Thursday, September 19, there was the creation of the Content Based Appellate Ad Hoc Committee headed by Trustee Bedenko and Trustee Bartholomew. She encouraged Board members to speak with Trustee Bedenko if they are interested in joining this Ad Hoc committee. Discussion ensued regarding committees. Following that, Chair Johnson shared that Chief Operating Officer Jeannine Purtell has resigned from her position. There will be interviews for a new COO in the coming months, and interested Board members will be invited to the final interviews. Further discussion ensued regarding the COO position.

Agenda Item E – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item E.1 – Executive Committee. The Executive Committee met on October 10, 2024. A copy of the written report was included in the Board packet. Trustee El-Behairy briefly summarized the meeting. Trustee Kelly moved to have the written report entered into the Minutes, Trustee Amodeo seconded, and this was approved unanimously.

Present: Executive Committee Chair Kimberly Johnson, Vice Chair Carima El-Behairy, and members Lucy Candelario, Elaine Panty, and Christopher Sasiadek. Also present were Director John Spears, Library Administrative Manager Tracy Palicki, and Assistant to the Director Caitlin Goodrich

The meeting of the Executive Committee began at 4:07 p.m. After a call of the roll, it was noted that a quorum was present.

Chair Johnson began the meeting by welcoming back member Candelario and congratulating member Sasiadek on his newborn baby girl, Phoebe Leia. Next, she stated that the Board meeting held on Thursday, September 19, became an Executive Committee meeting due to a lack of quorum, however, some Board members were in attendance. Chair Johnson voiced that she will reiterate the importance of attending Board meetings during the meeting scheduled on Thursday, October 17.

Next, Chair Johnson reviewed the draft agenda for Thursday, October 17. For the Report of the Chair, Chair Johnson shared that she attended the Angola Public Library Board Meeting with Trustee El-Behairy. The Board and library staff were welcoming and discussed how diligently they have been planning their annual fundraising dinner. Chair Johnson also shared that Angola Library Manager Jennifer Page will be

participating in a Virtual Caregiver Book Club associated with the Alzheimer's Association.

Following that, Chair Johnson shared that she has attended several galas so far this year and has the Hispanic Women's League 45th Scholarship Celebration Gala to attend on Friday, October 11. She is also an avid attendee of the BABEL literary series and is attending the Sandra Cisneros event at Kleinhans. Discussion ensued about the Hispanic Women's League Gala and events that the Library is planning for the month of October, including the Central Library's 60th Anniversary.

Finally, it will be mentioned during next week's Board meeting that Chief Operating Officer Jeannine Purtell has resigned from the Library effective Tuesday, October 1. Discussion ensued regarding the hiring process for a new Chief Operating Officer. Further discussion ensued regarding committees that were formed at the last Board meeting, including one that will handle appeals of reconsideration requests of materials.

Following that, Library Administrative Manager Palicki introduced proposed Resolution 2024-24 - Authorization for Year-end Transfers in Excess of \$5,000. She stated that this is an annual resolution and allows for funds that have already been allocated to the Library to be moved around if necessary. Trustee Sasiadek clarified that a list of transfers that were made would be presented at a subsequent Board meeting. Library Administrative Manager Tracy Palicki stated that would be the case if any transfers are made. She followed-up that there were no transfers made last year.

Next, Library Administrative Manager Palicki introduced proposed Resolution 2024-25 - Central Library Space Utilization Study Authorization of Funds. She explained the purpose of the proposed resolution and stated that funds will come from the trust and unassigned fund balance. Director Spears stated that the total cost of the study will be \$290,000. Discussion ensued about the Space Utilization Study and what it entails. Erie County still needs to vote on the contract with the organization that was awarded the RFP. Further discussion ensued regarding the Space Utilization Study, the Central Library's roof, and the timeframe of the study.

Finally, Library Administrative Manager Palicki stated that they will present the Monthly Financial Report through August 31, 2024, and Director Spears shared that the Erie County Executive should release their preliminary budget by Tuesday, October 15.

Discussion ensued regarding Board meetings at member libraries and having the meeting notice include a specific invitation for the Board and staff that represents the specific member library.

There being no further business, Trustee Panty motioned to adjourn, and Trustee El-Behairy seconded. The meeting ended at 4:29 p.m.

Agenda Item E.2 – Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item E.2.a – Resolution 2024-24 – Authorization for Year-end Transfers in Excess of \$5,000. Assistant Deputy Director – Controller Emily Patronik explained proposed Resolution 2024-24 as presented below. She stated that this is a recurring resolution that is brought before the Board every year. She stated that occasionally for budget purposes transfers in excess of \$5,000 need to be made and that the purpose of this resolution is to allow the Library Director or designee to sign off on the transfers, if necessary.

RESOLUTION 2024-24

WHEREAS, the 2024 year-end closing process is approaching and involves finalizing encumbrances (or commitments to spend budgeted funds), and

WHEREAS, some costs, such as termination payouts for retiring employees, will impact other accounts including the System salary and fringe accounts and individual contracting library salary and fringe benefit accounts, requiring transfers, and in the case of contracting libraries, contract budget amendments, be processed quickly to ensure payroll expenses can be met on a timely basis, and

WHEREAS, it may be in the Library’s interest to encumber items that may require budget transfers in excess of \$5,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) authorizes the Library Director or designee, with the approval of the Board Chair or the Budget and Finance Committee Chair, to approve transfers within the budget impacting objects of expenditure in excess of \$5,000 for the purposes of making year-end encumbrances and/or expenditures as stated above, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that any such transfers be incorporated into the monthly financial statements submitted to the full Board prior to the close of the fiscal year.

Trustee Amodeo motioned for approval of Resolution 2024-24, Trustee El-Behairy seconded, and this was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item E.2.b – Resolution 2024-25 – Central Library Space Utilization Study Authorization of Funds. ADD– Controller Patronik explained proposed Resolution 2024-25 as presented below. She stated that a committee was created regarding how to utilize space in the Central Library and that it included representatives from the Erie County DPW. The Library received 13 proposals in June 2024 and strongly preferred Bostwick Design Partnership’s proposal.

RESOLUTION 2024-25

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2023, the Library Board adopted Resolution 2023-12, recommending the use of \$150,000 of available unassigned ending fund balance to finance a Space Utilization Study at the Central Library, and

WHEREAS, this study will include design options and cost estimation for the interior reimagining and reconfiguration of all floors of the 400,000 square foot building, in both public and private book collections, to create flexible spaces conducive to realizing the Library's vision to be a vibrant destination, and

WHEREAS, a committee of six Library staff was formed to draft the RFP for detailed planning, design, and cost estimation for the study and the RFP was issued June 7, 2024, with 13 proposals submitted and evaluated from firms located across the country, and

WHEREAS, after extensive proposal review and interviews of the top two responders, the proposal submitted by a team of firms lead by Bostwick Design Partnership, headquartered in Cleveland, OH, at a cost of \$286,500 was determined to best meet the Library's needs, and

WHEREAS, the Library is requesting the use of an additional \$70,000 in Library trust fund and \$70,000 in unassigned fund balance to fully fund the project in conjunction with the funds in approved Resolution 2023-12, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library approves establishing a project expenditure budget utilizing Library funds in an amount not to exceed \$290,000 for Bostwick Design Partnership's services for the Central Library Space Utilization Study, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Library Director or their designee is authorized to execute any necessary documents to enter into an agreement to undertake the Central Library Space Utilization Study, contingent upon and subject to any Erie County approvals.

Discussion ensued regarding the Space Utilization Study and contingency funding. Trustee Amodeo motioned for approval of Resolution 2024-24, Trustee Bucki seconded, and this was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item E.2.c – Monthly Financial Report. ADD-Controller Patronik informed the Board that Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz released the 2025 Proposed Budget on Tuesday, October 15. The Library saw a 4.3% increase in funding. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed budget. ADD-Controller Patronik thanked Erie County for their support and stated that she is looking forward to the Legislator meetings. She went on to inform the Board of the monthly financial report ending on August 31, 2024. She stated that, currently, the Library has only expended 61.8% of budget expenses and that

it is typically 66% around this time. Discussion ensued regarding health insurance premiums and Library utilities.

Agenda Item F – Report of the Director. Director Spears began his report by introducing the new liaison from the Erie County Executive’s Office, David Bojanowski. He will be replacing former liaison Monica Boutin, who did a tremendous job. David Bojanowski said a few words about being the new liaison that will be detailed in Agenda Item I – Public Comment.

Next, Director Spears updated the Board on the COO hiring process. He informed the Board that Jeannine Purtell has resigned from the COO position and has accepted a position at the University at Buffalo. He went on to say that the COO application window has closed, the initial screening of applicants has been started, and the candidates have been contacted. The initial interview will consist of Director Spears, Assistant Deputy Director Judy Fachko, and a human resources consulting firm representative. Further discussion ensued about the interview process and inviting interested Board members in for the final interviews. Trustee Craik asked if there are strong internal candidates, and Director Spears indicated that there are. Trustee Bartholomew asked if there is a rough estimate on when these interviews will take place. Director Spears indicated that November would be an approximate timeframe. Trustee Amodeo asked if the COO position is a contract term. Director Spears stated that it is a contract term, however, it is not a binding contract. Discussion ensued regarding all of the questions posed.

Following that, Director Spears shared that at the meeting held on Thursday, September 19, a Visioning Process Ad Hoc Committee was created and that the following Trustees were nominated: Chair Johnson, Trustee Craik, and Trustee El-Behairy. The consultant, Mary Beth Debus, will be scheduling an onboarding meeting.

Next, Director Spears shared that Advocacy Day is going to be on Wednesday, February 5. Discussion ensued regarding Advocacy Day. The priorities for the fiscal year of 2026 are freedom to read, eBook licensing reform, and media literacy. Further discussion ensued regarding all of the priorities, proposed operating aid, and construction aid. Discussion then ensued regarding the current \$6.25 per pupil in school districts. Further discussion ensued regarding Advocacy Day and the timeline.

Finally, Director Spears mentioned the *Queen City Hub Revisited: 2024 Downtown Action Plan*. He briefly explained the purpose of the plan and how the process is going. The Library is considered a stakeholder. Assistant Deputy Director Dorinda Darden has already attended one meeting, and Director Spears intends on attending the next one. Further discussion ensued on the *Queen City Hub Revisited: 2024 Downtown Action Plan*.

Trustee Bucki shared that she enjoyed Director Spears's article in the Buffalo News regarding the Central Library's 60th anniversary. Discussion ensued regarding the piece and Marketing Manager Sean Piazza's involvement.

The following report was submitted by the Director and transmitted to Board members prior to the meeting:

**B&ECPL Monthly Report
September 2024**

Banned Books Week - As chair of the B&ECPL System-wide, *Freedom to Read Committee*, Collection Development Librarian **Michelle Snyder** coordinated the *Freedom to Read* initiatives during *Banned Books Week*, September 22-28, 2024. Highlights included the "Winds of Freedom" pinwheel display in the Reading Park at the Central Library. Library staff, friends, and families volunteered to plant over 800 pinwheels. Each pinwheel symbolizes five books that were challenged or banned in the United States in 2023. *Freedom to Read* merchandise was also available for purchase at the Library's online store. In addition, **Michelle** moderated three programs that included, an interview at the Crane Branch Library on September 23 with Brooky Parks, a Colorado Public Librarian who was fired for refusing to ban books; Ellen Rajnisz from Buffalo's Burning Books bookstore presented at the North Park Branch Library on September 24 about the *History of Book Bans and Burning*; and Moira Marquis, Co-Founder and Director of Saxapahaw Prison Books Program and Prison Banned Books Week, and Rod Coronada, Eco Activist, hosted the *Books Through Bars* discussion held at the Crane Branch Library and also available virtually on September 25.

Buffalo History Channel - Rare Book Curator **Heather Gring** coordinated with Doug Ruffin, the filmmaker and archivist behind the Buffalo History Channel, for a special screening of *Buffalo Stories: Doug Ruffin & The Buffalo History Channel* in the Ring of Knowledge at the Central Library on September 15. The Director's cut included films about the history of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library and local artists such as Lorna C. Hill. Mr. Ruffin also set up a display about the Buffalo History Channel outside the Grosvenor Room that was available for a week after the screening.

Hispanic Heritage Month - The B&ECPL System-wide, *Cultural & Special Days Committee* planned activities and programs in celebration of *Hispanic Heritage Month*, which runs from September 15 through October 15. Buttons, bookmarks, stickers, coloring sheets with influential individuals in Hispanic History, a large-scale tabletop coloring page, and a reading list of books for all ages and genres were offered to all libraries. Concerts by Stephen Paul Guerra, a Brazilian musician, were performed at the Julia Boyer Reinstein, Crane, and Kenmore Libraries. In addition, the award-winning documentary, *Los Hermanos/The Brothers*, will be shown on October 5 in the Ring of Knowledge at the Central Library. It will also be shared virtually with patrons. Libraries throughout the B&ECPL System will also have the opportunity to host a showing of the documentary on that day as well. The Hispanic Heritage Council of

WNY held its well-attended annual Kickoff for the celebratory month at Central on September 16, with speakers, music, and delicious refreshments.

Job Fair - System Adult Outreach Librarian **Jacob Rachwal** coordinated with CA Hill TECH and the New York State Department of Transportation to organize a *Job Fair* for aQuiRe Construction Academy and WorkSmartNY graduates. This event was held in the Collections Gallery space on the second floor of the Central Library on September 26. Representatives from several organizations were present to share job opportunities to those in attendance.

1. Public Services

Central Library:

Stitch Buffalo – On September 7 Launch Pad Technology Clerk **Amanda Brown** hosted a special edition Stitch Circle Craft Supply Swap, where 28 library patrons brought, traded, and took home all sorts of craft supplies for others to use and enjoy.

Movie Matinee – On September 4, 11, 18, and 27 Adult Services Librarian **Kuniko Simon** arranged Wednesday's "Movie Matinee" programs with selected themes of Spanish Heritage Month and Leonardo da Vinci Week: *Wish* (2023), *Hairspray* (2007), *The Book of Life* (2014), *The Da Vinci Code* (2006).

International Institute Visit – On September 19 **Kuniko Simon** hosted a library educational tour with International Institute of Buffalo for a Job Club group consisting of Spanish, Burmese, Dari, Sudani-Arabic, and Tigrinya (Ethiopia) speakers. They explored various library services and programs online and in person, and 34 new library cards were assigned during the tour.

System Services:

Explore Buffalo – Special Collections Manager **Susan Buttaccio** hosted Joe Wasick of Explore Buffalo at the Central Library on September 7 for a talk entitled *Buffalo's Sporting Life*. Those in attendance learned about the history of sports in Buffalo, from the Bills to the Braves.

Genealogy Training – Genealogist Specialist **Rhonda Hoffman** presented *Cool Tools for Genealogy* at the Amherst Senior Center on September 10. Genealogists learned about using artificial intelligence to transcribe records and extract data from records, using Goldie May to plan research projects, and using Google Earth Pro for genealogy projects, as well as other technology. **Rhonda** taught *Jumpstart Your Genealogy* at the North Park Branch Library on September 13. She presented the online class *Going Beyond in Public Libraries* on September 18. Genealogists learned how to go beyond classical genealogy records when doing research at public libraries. **Rhonda** also presented on *Getting the Most out of Ancestry Library Edition* at the Audubon Library in partnership with the Jewish Genealogy Society of Buffalo on September 26.

Health and Wellness - System Adult Outreach Librarian **Jacob Rachwal** worked with Georgia Helping Hands of WNY to host a *Wellness, Financial Literacy and Healthcare* workshop at the Central Library on September 7. Representatives from KeyBank were also present to help attendees with their banking needs.

Jacob Rachwal coordinated the *Wellness @ Central* tabling event held at the Central Library on September 19. There were 26 organizations, who provided health and wellness resources to over 100 patrons.

Oral History Interview - **Susan Buttaccio** interviewed former Chair of the Library Board, and one time library page, Judge Salvatore Martoche in the Launch Pad Makerspace recording studio at the Central Library. Judge Martoche shared stories from his more than 40-year association with the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. Launch Pad Makerspace Manager **Jordan Smith** will assist with editing the recording. Part of the interview will be included in the *Happy 60th Birthday, Central Library!* celebration on October 18.

Central participated in **National Voter Registration Day** by inviting in six organizations that support voter information, including the Erie County Board of Elections and the League of Women Voters, to provide onsite registration. Also in support of the run-up to Election Day on November 5, three virtual programs in the IMAGINE Series on Tuesdays are planned: October 8, with the Board of Elections; October 22, on how all levels of government work, with former Congressman Brian Higgins; and November 5, with US Citizenship & Immigration Services on what immigrants must do to become U.S. citizens. These programs occur live on Zoom at 12:30 p.m. but also are recorded and reside on the Library's YouTube archive.

During his visit as the keynote speaker for the **Buffalo Humanities Festival**, best-selling author Percival Everett (*Erasure* and *James*, among other titles) visited the *Mark Twain Room* at the Central Library where Special Collections staff Susan Buttaccio, Heather Gring, and Charles Alaimo shared the Twain *Huckleberry Finn* manuscript. The Humanities Festival presented multiple speakers at Central on the theme "Hauntings" all day on September 21, with 70 attendees participating.

The Central Library was a featured site of **Doors Open 2024**, Explore Buffalo's annual "architectural open house" across downtown Buffalo. 366 visitors took the free "Behind the Scenes" tours of this building (which will celebrate its 60th birthday with a festive event on October 18, 3-5 p.m.). A collaboration with Buffalo Toronto Public Media offered a program promoting the upcoming PBS Ken Burns documentary on Leonardo daVinci, with a "daVinci -inspired scavenger hunt, hands-on activities in the Launch Pad, and a presentation and display of daVinci-related books from our Rare Book Curator **Heather Gring**.

Displays and Exhibits:

For *Freedom to Read* week, the Library's Graphics artists **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** installed promotional items (pennants, posters) on the outside walls of

Central and printed pennants for each library. They also designed, printed, and installed the new *Rare Books 101* exhibit. This is the first exhibition curated by **Heather Gring**. The exhibit opened in the Rare Book Room at the Central Library on September 19. The *Rare Books 101* exhibit is an overview of the Rare Books collection, and features a wide variety of objects representative of the larger collection. It will be on display until April 2025.

Tours and Visits:

Rare Book and Map Librarian **Charles Alaimo** presented treasures from the Rare Book Room to Judge Salvatore Martoche, his wife, and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kadushin on September 12 at the Central Library. Judge Martoche was a member of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System Board of Trustees during the period when the *Huckleberry Finn* manuscript acquisition was completed and when the library received the Milestones of Science collection.

Charles Alaimo, **Susan Buttaccio**, and **Heather Gring** hosted author Percival Everett for a tour of the Mark Twain Room at the Central Library on September 20. Community Engagement Manager **Anne Conable** and Library Display Artist **Dawn Stanton** were also in attendance. Mr. Everett visited ahead of the Buffalo Humanities Festival, where he was the featured speaker. Mr. Everett's most recent book *James* is a re-imagination of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* from the perspective of Jim, Huck's companion in Mark Twain's original. Special Collections staff, led by **Charles Alaimo**, was delighted to share the original handwritten manuscript of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* with the Pulitzer Prize finalist, and to learn that Mr. Everett writes his own novels by hand.

Susan Buttaccio led the final tour of the day at the Central Library for the 2024 *Doors Open Buffalo* event on September 28. Participants learned about the history of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, along with programs and services available to visitors as well as a peek at the Central Library's closed stacks. Special Collections staff also assisted throughout the day as tours visited the Special Collections Department.

Buffalo Branches:

Dudley Programming Highlights:

- The Dudley Branch Library hosted LEGO Club on Wednesday evenings. 16 patrons attended throughout the month. Patrons could build something and display it in the library for a week.
- The Dudley Branch Library hosted two Family Story times throughout the month. Branch Manager **Angelina DiMascio** sings songs, does a flannel story on the whiteboard where kids can come up and engage with the images/story, brings out the musical instruments, and does sign language in the welcome and goodbye songs. Each Story time patrons enjoy three stories.

- The Dudley Branch Library hosts Adult Craft Night once a month. **Library Assistant Ana Sennett** conducted the event September 10. Participants enjoyed Alcohol Ink-Dyed Candles and got to take their creative candles home.
- The Dudley Branch Library hosts a new book discussion group called, "Murder in the Stacks." Adults can enjoy reading murder mysteries and thrillers, and light refreshments are always provided. Their first meeting was September 26, where they discussed *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deanna Raybourn.
- **Angelina DiMascio** held a tech-time where patrons could Book a Librarian. One patron attended and learned about how to use their cell phone to get digital coupons through the Wegmans App and how to use QR code features on September 19.
- The Dudley Branch Library holds a different themed scavenger hunt every month. In the Children's Area, the library had a Back to School hunt where children can look around the library, find each item, and get a prize at the Circulation Desk. 50 patrons completed the scavenger hunt.

Outreach:

On September 25 **Kuniko Simon** was invited to give a lecture during Justin Crossfox's class *LIB 100: Introduction to Library Research Methods* at **Buffalo State University**. Twelve students from across New York State were introduced to the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library system and explored public library resources and services during the presentation. Students were assigned to write a paper on either public library layout observation or library program participation which consisted of 25% of their final grade in the class. Simon stayed and assisted in signing up for their library cards.

Mobile Services Librarian **Jennifer Block** and Mobile Services Senior Page **Loch McLaughlin** attended the *Local Environmental Awareness Fair* in Boston hosted by the Town of Boston Conservation Advisory Council on September 14. Environmentally conscious residents met with ecologically focused groups throughout the day. There were 49 attendees who visited the Library on Wheels Bookmobile.

Mobile Services Librarian Trainee **Susan Blake** and Mobile Services Senior Page **Olivia Adams** attended the *Erie County Fall Fest* at Como Lake Park in Lancaster on September 28. Thousands attended the event, with 576 attendees stopping by the Library on Wheels Bookmobile to participate in a craft, grab a take and make craft, check the status of their library card accounts, and check out materials. Many reminisced about their personal childhood experiences on the Lookie Bookie and RAM Van. The StoryWalk, *Finding Wild* by Megan Wagner Lloyd, supplied by System Youth Outreach Services, was set up, and hundreds of festivalgoers were able to enjoy. In addition to live music, hayrides, food trucks, and vendors, *Fall Fest* attendees were able to interact and play with alpacas and other animals from Kester Farms, as well as meet with many Erie County departments.

The TechKnow Lab's partnership with the Tosh Collins Senior Center in South Buffalo has resumed this month. Classes and one-on-one technology training will alternate on a biweekly basis. As part of a new partnership with Dorothy J. Collier Community

Center in Buffalo, TechKnow Lab Librarian **Brendan Chella** provided technology training on September 11. **Brendan** taught a technology class on *Misinformation* at an NARFE (National Association of Retired Federal Employees) meeting on September 16.

System Youth Outreach Services Librarian Trainee **Amealia Brousseau** observed and assisted Central Teen Services Manager **Taylor Harding** at the Charter School for Applied Technologies in Buffalo on September 10 and September 11. **Taylor** presented a *Media Studies 1 & 2 Library Resources Workshop* for students. They discussed student digital cards, subject guides, Libby & Hoopla, and the Teen Space at the Central Library. Students also played a Family Feud-style Library Trivia.

System Youth Outreach Services Library Assistant **Emily McDonald** participated in an outreach on September 13 at Kiddo's Korner with **Carly Spatar**, a Librarian at the Grand Island Memorial Library. Emily observed and assisted with three *Story time* programs for children aged 2 to 5.

System Youth Outreach Services Manager **Chelsey Lonberger** and **Emily McDonald** attended the *BubbleFEST* on September 13, held at the Buffalo Museum of Science. They provided crafts for about 1,000 kids and also interacted with 1,000 parents and caregivers to promote library programs and services. This included distributing the Central Library's *Spooky Library Party* flyers and a bookmark with a QR code link to the events calendar for all other Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries.

System Adult Outreach Services Manager **Carol Kowalik-Happy** and System Adult Outreach Services Librarians **Melissa Blattner** and **Jacob Rachwal** hosted a table at the *World's Largest Yard Sale* at the Hamburg Fairgrounds on September 13 and September 14. They provided information about library programs, registered new library card users, distributed crafts, and shared library resources with those in attendance. They interacted with over 800 attendees.

Rhonda Hoffman provided tabling at the *Polish Genealogy Fair* at St. Gabriel's Church in Elma on September 14. She spoke with genealogists regarding the genealogy resources at the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library.

TechKnow Lab Librarian **Jacqueline (Jackie) Hovey** and **Melissa Blattner** hosted a table at the Bangladeshi American Social & Cultural Organization of WNY *Healthy Living & Blood Drive* event held on September 14. They provided information about library programs and technology services offered through the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System. **Jackie** was interviewed during the event.

Amealia Brousseau began providing *Preschool Story time* at the Crane Branch Library on Fridays on September 20.

Chelsey Lonberger and **Emily McDonald** attended the *Help Me Grow NY Summit*, with the theme *Rooted in Relationships* held at the Buffalo Marriott Niagara, on September 26. This full day event was "to connect with experts and resources for

supporting children's growth and development in New York!" In addition, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library was among other organizations invited to table at the event. **Chelsey** and **Emily** promoted the B&ECPL's *Story time in a Bag* collection and agency cards, as well as other programs that could help agencies.

Emily McDonald tabled at the EPIC's annual *Baby & Toddler Expo* at the Buffalo Museum of Science on September 28. She provided free giveaways of Baby Board books courtesy of Project Flight and promoted the *Read Aloud 15 MINUTES National Campaign*.

2. Collection Development

Physical Collections:

	Item Adds		Title Adds		Collection Size
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD	
Juvenile Print	2,416	24,226	208	2,312	515,605
Young Adult Print	611	5,263	84	840	71,703
Adult Print	3,002	34,760	509	6,488	1,772,022
Media	1,880	19,949	197	2,060	524,382
Other*	1,725	15,669	19	254	172,295
Subtotal	9,634	99,867	1,017	11,954	3,056,007

*Includes magazines, generic copies, and other.

Electronic Collections*:

	Item Adds		Title Adds		Collection Size
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD	
eBooks	3,252	38,253	1,281	12,316	128,418
eAudiobooks	7,009	79,232	388	3,520	68,067
Digital Magazines	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,554
Subtotal	10,261	117,485	1,669	15,836	202,039

*The B&ECPL also provides access to all *hoopla* eBooks, eAudiobooks, videos, and music albums. These titles are not included in the collection size total, as they are not owned by the B&ECPL.

All Collections:

	Item Adds		Title Adds		Collection Size
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD	
Total	19,895	217,352	2,686	27,790	3,258,046

Digital Collections - Special Collections Librarian **Adam Rubin** and Library Information Technology Administrator **Stephen Hovey** have completed an update of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library's Digital Collections platform that has provided navigation improvements as well as a new visual presentation for the site. Ongoing improvements will continue, including additional patron guidance and new content.

Oral History Collection - Heather Gring used the new *Oral History Kits* to conduct an interview with artist Muhammad Zaman for the Oral History Collection in the Grosvenor Room.

Rare Books and Special Collections:

Heather Gring acquired a selection of calligraphic works on paper by Muhammad Zaman for the Rare Book Collection.

Charles Alaimo completed the cataloging of the Fred A. Jordan Fine Bindings Collection. The 119 items in seven different languages required detailed descriptions of the unique bindings and original cataloging for 22 of the titles.

Special Collections Librarian **Elizabeth (Libby) Stengel** added multiple yearbook donations to the Grosvenor Room Collection, including yearbooks from Canisius College and Tonawanda High School. The collection now contains a full run of the Trocaire College yearbook from 1970-1998, courtesy of a partnership with Allison Vasquez, Librarian at the Rachel L. Savarino Library. **Charles Alaimo** and Special Collections Library Clerk **Nataliia Salansky** catalogued and processed all the yearbooks.

At the invitation of the Buffalo History Museum Research Library, **Rhonda Hoffman** selected several titles from their New York State book collection. These titles will be added to the Grosvenor Room Genealogy Collection.

3. Funding/Fundraising

Funding:

2025 Budget request submitted on time- Between supply chain and other inflationary factors, costs are forecast to increase significantly faster than in recent years. The combined impact of recently settled Erie County labor agreements and another expected minimum wage increase result in 2025 will also have an effect on expenses, and we are seeing increases in other operating accounts, as well. Overall, net expense is expected to increase approximately \$1.6 million (4.8%).

Feedback from the County Budget office to date has been supportive. The next major 2025 budget event is the release of the County Executive's Proposed Budget, expected in mid-October of 2024.

We will keep you informed as the budget process continues.

Fundraising:

Campaign Name	Campaign Dates	Raised to Date
Annual Appeal Total	January 1 - September 30, 2024	\$280,381.46

Highlights:

Bucks for Books annual donation request, was mailed to 10,000 households in mid-September. As of October 1, \$16,770 in donations have been received.

A grant request for \$5,000 was submitted to M&T Bank Foundation to help support Bucks for Books, specifically to purchase VOX & Wonderbooks that would be added to the Library's collection.

Mass Emails sent in September:

Fall Email – sent to library cardholders that have opted in to receive communication, approximately 80,000, had a 49% open rate.

Happy Hour Email – sent to past donors, approximately 2,100, had a 60% open rate.

4. Facilities

On September 4, Erie County DPW staff and the Central Library Space Utilization Study Planning Committee conducted interviews with two final firms in order to select a firm to award the Space Utilization Study contract. The two final firms were Bostwick Design Partnership and HBM Architects. The group determined that Bostwick Design partnership would provide the Library with a more thorough and detailed review of the building in order to conduct the desired reimagining of the Central Library. Bostwick should receive their contract in the next 5 to 6 weeks, pending budgetary approval.

On September 5, a meeting was held at the Leroy R. Coles, Jr. Branch Library to kick-off the planned construction there. The project is being managed and overseen by Zaxis Architectural Group. The work at this location includes a complete roof replacement, parking lot replacement, concrete repair at the sidewalk aprons, and HVAC replacement.

On September 12, Director **John Spears**, along with Assistant Deputy Director – Controller **Emily Patronik** and Facility Operations Manager **Andrew Wiede** presented the 2025 City of Buffalo Capital Project Requests to the City's Capital Project Committee. This year's requests focused on the Elaine M. Panty Branch Library and included funding requests for the installation of a metal roof overlay over the existing roof, parking lot replacement and repair, exterior brick repointing, drywall repair, ceiling tile replacement, door and window replacement, and security measure additions such as access control and window security film. The requests totaled \$980,892.

On September 23, a meeting was held at Buffalo City Hall with architecture firm LaBella Associates to kick-off the design phase of the planned construction at the East Clinton Branch Library. Proposed construction includes the replacement of the roof, exterior brick repointing, window and door replacement, floor tile replacement, and rehabilitation of the sinking concrete slab. The LaBella firm is currently generating the

necessary construction documents to include with the RFP, with contractor bids scheduled to be received no later than November 15.

On September 25, a pre-bid walk through was held at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library. The proposed work there includes a complete roof replacement and rehabilitation of the stained glass skylights. Nine contracting businesses attended the walk through at which they were allowed to survey the site and ask questions of the architect that designed the work and will be managing the project. Bids for this project will be opened on October 9.

5. Staff Development

Fall into Financial Wellness Week for All Staff - In partnership with Corebridge Financial, Erie County's dedicated financial advisor firm, in September we offered a financial wellness series for all employees. The online program included two overview webinars applicable to all staff that covered the deferred compensation plan and state pension, as well as two special topics sessions, one for employees nearing retirement and one for staff earlier in their savings strategies. All events were recorded and posted to the Staff Intranet so that anyone may continue to learn from this useful and important information.

Library Staff Attend Erie County Supervisor Training Courses - The Erie County Department of Social Services Staff Development Office recently held two supervisory trainings open to all county employees: *Mentoring 101* and *Giving Effective Feedback*. We were able to send three library supervisors to participate in these in-person events. Awareness of this learning opportunity came out of a new collaboration initiated by our Staff Development Coordinator between library and county offices that are focused on personnel programming. The goal is ongoing communication between our areas to be aware of each other's offerings and share resources.

Webinars - Employees participated in a variety of webinars and other virtual learning programs in September, with several staff members attending these sessions that were promoted on the Staff Training Calendar: *Effective Library Advocacy: Engaging Representatives Locally and in Albany* (from Western New York Library Resource Council), *Generative AI and Practical Applications for Libraries* (from Empire State Library Network), *Graphic Novel and Manga Extravaganza: A Deep Dive for Library Staff* (from North Carolina Library Cooperative), and *The Collection Life Cycle - Collection Management in Action* (from Central New York Library Resource Council).

6. Communications

Media:

Type of Communication	Topic	Air Date/Publish Date
Taped TV interview with Library Director John Spears	Library prep for new school year and teen situation at Central	September 3, WBEN 930 AM radio

Taped TV segment using Central as the backdrop	Friday the 13th mysteries and books about the topic	September 13, Spectrum News
Taped radio interview with Library Assistant Deputy Director Joy Testa Cinquino	Books for Kids campaign and what libraries have to offer	Aired September 13, WBLK FM radio
Taped radio interview with Library Assistant Deputy Director Joy Testa Cinquino	Books for Kids community campaign drive	Aired September 17 & 18 on WTSS FM the New 96.1 radio
Taped radio interview with Library Assistant Deputy Director Joy Testa Cinquino	Books for Kids community campaign drive	Aired September 18, 19, 20 on WYRK 106.5 radio
Live TV interview with Assistant Deputy Director Joy Testa Cinquino		September 20, WGRZ TV, Channel 2
Taped radio interview with Library Director John Spears	Freedom to Read	September 23, WBFO radio
Media Release	Freedom to Read – Banned Book Week programs	September 14, The Buffalo Challenger Buffalo Rising
Media Release	September is Library Card Sign-up Month	Sent September 3, Townsquare Media radio stations, Step Out Buffalo online

Social Media:

	Staff Activity		Public Activity		Followers	
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month (New)	Total
Facebook	126	1,016	2,687	30,201	74	13,842
Flickr	-	123	2,286	30,449	-	59
Google Ads ¹	N/A	N/A	2,716	24,306	N/A	N/A
Instagram	31	174	5,178	35,102	139	6,700
Pinterest	-	303	61	833	2	2,054
X(formerly Twitter)²	55	537	102	2,471	11	10,956
YouTube	9	76	2,373	22,496	10	687
TikTok	-	4	440	4,043	37	852
Total	221	2,233	15,843	149,901	273	35,150

¹ Google Ads is provided to the Library through a grant. Monthly activity based on public clicks.

² Twitter (X) analytics were hand-calculated, as the platform now only offers built-in analytics statistics to premium (paying) users.

7. Partnerships

Erie County Department of Senior Services - Jacob Rachwal met with Adam Kowalyk from Erie County Department of Senior Services on September 5 to discuss

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collaborating with the library to offer HEAP and NY Connects outreach events at the Central Library. They scheduled a number of tabling opportunities throughout the remainder of the year to coincide with the *Wellness @ Central* events. **Jacob** also provided Adam with contact information for the Buffalo Branches for him to reach out to them to schedule Home Energy Assistance Program outreach at the branches as well.

Newspapers.com– Through a partnership with Newspapers.com and the Buffalo History Museum, the Special Collection's Department worked on getting the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library digital access to the Buffalo News, the Courier Express, and many other historical local newspapers through Newspapers.com. The microfilmed papers in the Grosvenor Room are currently being digitized and will soon be available through Newspapers.com at the Buffalo History Museum and the Central Library.

Peaceprints of WNY - Jacob Rachwal met with Jacob Steinmetz and Monica Bell from Peaceprints of WNY on September 11. **Jacob** provided them a tour of the spaces available at the Central Library and helped them schedule their *Community Resource Fair* for October 23.

Uncrowned Community Builders - Susan Buttaccio met with Dr. Barbara Seals Nevergold, Co-Founder of the Uncrowned Queens Institute, on September 24 to discuss hosting some of the Uncrowned Community Builder's content on the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library's Digital Collections page. The Uncrowned Community Builders is a website which uses technology to promote the collection, preservation, and dissemination of the individual histories of the African American community.

University at Buffalo Libraries - Heather Gring met with Alison Fraser, University at Buffalo Libraries Associate Curator, Poetry Collection Curator, Rare & Special Books, on September 25 to discuss expanding collaboration across institutions.

System Services staff were also in contact or attended meetings with representatives of the following groups and organizations:

- El Museo
- Hearts & Hands
- Kredit Academy
- Live Well Erie
- Locust Street Art
- Squeaky Wheel Film & Media Art Center
- Ujima Theater Company
- Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC) Committees

8. Planning for the Future

Libby Stengel is working with Suzanne Ernst, Program Director of Explore Buffalo, to book Local History lectures at the Central Library through December 2025. The lectures will be offered every two months.

Carol Kowalik-Happy met with Sara Edwards, Associate Director of the Cannabis Workforce Initiative, on September 25 to discuss the *Cannabis Workforce Initiative*, a partnership between the Cornell Institute of Labor Relations and the Workforce Development Institute and funded by New York State. Plans are underway to have a 15-hour training course at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library in the spring of 2025.

9. Director Activities

List of Meetings and Events

Attended by Director John Spears

September 2024

DATE	MEETING / EVENT
September 3, 2024	Meeting - Librarians Association Negotiations
September 3, 2024	Phone Interview - WBEN Radio with Max Faery
September 3, 2024	Meeting - Emily Patronik
September 4, 2024	Meeting/Presentation - Bostwick (Space Utilization Study)
September 4, 2024	Meeting/Presentation - HBM (Space Utilization Study)
September 5, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Buffalo Cultural Leaders
September 5, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Frank Ciccio and Judy Fachko
September 5, 2024	Meeting - Jeannine Purtell
September 5, 2024	Meeting - Dorinda Darden
September 6, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Digital Access for All Program
September 9, 2024	Meeting - Frank Ciccio and Administrators
September 9, 2024	Virtual Meeting - All Staff Annual Budget Overview
September 10, 2024	Meeting - Samantha Purpora
September 10, 2024	Virtual Meeting - All Staff Annual Budget Overview
September 10, 2024	Virtual Meeting - PULISDO
September 10, 2024	Meeting - Emily Patronik
September 11, 2024	Meeting - Managers/Directors
September 12, 2024	Meeting - Emily Patronik
September 12, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Erie County Legislative Session
September 12, 2024	Meeting - City of Buffalo 2025 Capital Budget Hearing for Common Council and Cultural/Education Organizations
September 13, 2024	Meeting - Samantha Purpora
September 13, 2024	Meeting - Joy Testa Cinquino
September 13, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Intellectual Freedom Manual
September 16, 2024	Meeting - Administrative Team
September 16, 2024	Event - Hispanic Heritage Month Kick-off

Minutes of the Board of Trustees

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September 17, 2024	Meeting - Samantha Purpora
September 17, 2024	Meeting - ErieNet, LDC Audit and Finance Committee
September 17, 2024	Meeting - ErieNet, LDC Board of Directors
September 17, 2024	Meeting - Emily Patronik
September 18, 2024	Meeting - Jeannine Purtell and Aaron Swan
September 18, 2024	Meeting - Dorinda Darden
September 19, 2024	Virtual Meeting - MetLib 2024 Conference Planning Committee
September 19, 2024	Meeting - Jeannine Purtell and Steve Hovey
September 19, 2024	Virtual Meeting - All Staff Forum
September 19, 2024	Meeting - Judy Fachko
September 19, 2024	Meeting - Jeannine Purtell
September 19, 2024	Phone Interview - WBFO Radio with Ryan Zummer
September 19, 2024	Meeting - Central/City Branches Staff Forum
September 19, 2024	Meeting - Executive Committee at Audubon Branch Library
September 20, 2024	Meeting - Central/City Branches Staff Forum
September 20, 2024	Meeting - Central Library Space Utilization Study
September 20, 2024	Meeting - Cas Rodriguez
September 20, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Intellectual Freedom Manual
September 23, 2024	Meeting - Administrative Team
September 24, 2024	Meeting - Staff Concerns
September 24, 2024	Meeting - Librarians Association Negotiations
September 24, 2024	Virtual Meeting - ALA Committee on Professional Ethics
September 24, 2024	Meeting - Samantha Purpora
September 26, 2024	Meeting - Dorinda Darden and Samantha Purpora
September 26, 2024	Meeting - Jeannine Purtell
September 26, 2024	Event - Darlene Pennachi's Retirement
September 27, 2024	Meeting - Dorinda Darden
September 27, 2024	Virtual Meeting - Intellectual Freedom Manual
September 30, 2024	Meeting - Judy Fachko and Samantha Purpora
September 30, 2024	Meeting - Administrative Team

Appendices

A. Monthly Statistics

System Programming Statistics:

Regular/Virtual	Number of Programs		Total Attendance	
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
Regular*				
Adults	1040	9041	3112	29685

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Children 5 and under	790	12324	3121	44843
Children 6-11	1318	15282	2378	34232
Intergenerational/Combined	3225	41637	10920	100097
Teens	183	3365	596	6384
Regular Total	6556	81649	20127	215241
Regular Total	6556	81649	20127	215241
Virtual				
Live Virtual				
Adults	20	145	180	1701
Children 5 and under	0	3	0	48
Children 6-11	0	5	0	186
Intergenerational/Combined	5	46	135	947
Teens	2	73	1	174
Live Virtual Total	27	272	316	3056
Recorded Virtual				
Adults	6	44	145	1089
Children 5 and under	0	0	0	0
Children 6-11	2	17	355	2337
Intergenerational/Combined	10	84	1014	7465
Teens	0	0	0	0
Recorded Virtual Total	18	145	1514	10891
Virtual Total	45	417	1830	13947
Grand Total	6601	82066	21957	229188

*Regular programs include group programs, one-on-one programs, and self-directed programs (including individual take & make crafts).

Other Statistics:

Consolidated statistics on library visits, website visits, circulation, computer sessions, wifi usage, and program attendance and a summary of open hours can be found at www.buffalolib.org/about-becpl/monthly-statistics.

Detailed reports on circulation, computer sessions, wifi usage, and library visits can be found at <https://www.buffalolib.org/monthly-statistics/2024-circulation-public-access-computer-wifi-and-library-visits-detail>.

B. Contracting Library Activity Reports

Julia Boyer Reinstein (JBR) and Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library (REI)

- Submitted by Daniel Caufield, Director

The month of September 2024 is indicative of the programming and outreach Cheektowaga Public Libraries (CPL) strive for throughout the year. Partnering with the SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives, Sept. 2) and the SBDC (Small Business Development Center at Buffalo State University, Sept. 17). CPL offered workshops on starting and developing a business for aspiring entrepreneurs. With strong partnerships with many of the local economic development agencies, CPL have been able to offer one small business development workshop a month and Director Dan Caufield has spoken at various universities and community centers presenting

how the Library's free resources can be used to further one's success. On September 18, the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library partnered with the Dept. of Labor and hosted a Job Fair. Thirty five local businesses were in attendance meeting over 175 job seekers. Many left with appointments for job interviews and a few individuals were hired during the Job Fair itself. This was the second successful Job Fair at JBR and we will be continuing to offer these workforce development events twice a year to assist those who may be unemployed or underemployed.

Partnering with the Erie County Dept. of Health, REI hosted a community event concerning drug use in Cheektowaga and NARCAN's role in preventing opioid overdoses. The meeting was well received with attendees able to leave informed, prepared and empowered to render aid in cases of opioid overdose. Libraries have been said to give second chances and there is no greater second chance than to save a life. On September 22, JBR celebrated Hispanic Heritage month with a performance by Stephen Guerra and Titus Stevens. The performance featured Charo Music, an upbeat form of instrumental Jazz from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This is the fourth concert offered this year and the CPL wish to thank John Spears and Central Adult Services Librarian Carol Kowalik-Happy for funding and facilitating scheduling for events like this that bring the world music for the enjoyment of patrons.

CPL Librarians continue to provide Children's programming such as Preschool Story-time (JBR), Night Owl Story time (REI) and Early Bird Story time (REI) weekly at both Libraries. Also partnering with teen volunteers from Cheektowaga Y.E.S (Youth Engaged in Service) both Libraries offer a well-attended Lego Club Night and Craft Nights for children 12 and under. Not only does Y.E.S. provide community service hours required for the teens 'graduation but it's an excellent opportunity for them to make new friends and gain leadership experience. For our adult patrons Cheektowaga Libraries offer two book clubs that meet monthly to encourage reading and lifelong learning (Between the Lines and Next Chapter Book Clubs) as well as an adult craft program which ties in art to notable holidays.

The Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library submitted a grant application to the NYS Library Construction program to repair an aging roof and rehabilitate wood support columns outside the Library. Outside lawn work is being completed at JBR to create a small woodland seating area behind the Library. By spring of 2025, partnering with Reinstein Woods, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and Erie County Soil and Water Conservation District, this area can be a focus for lectures and hands-on programming about gardening and forestry.

The Cheektowaga Libraries remain 5th in the system for computer use, circulation and visitor count but it's our partnerships and programming which maximizes the Library's benefit to the community.

Agenda Item G – Report of the Foundation. Trustee El-Behairy informed the Board that in regards to the strategic planning process, the sub-committee is meeting tomorrow to discuss the findings with their consultant.

Agenda Item H – The Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT)/Contracting Library Trustee Report. Martha Buyer shared that the ACT Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 19. She then stated that they will have a new Treasurer soon. She also encouraged the Board to visit the Springville Center of the Arts.

Agenda Item H.1 – Contracting Library Liaison Report(s). Trustee El-Behairy shared that Chair Johnson and she visited the Angola Public Library. She distributed table placemats that were printed by the Graphics Department which will be used at the *Centennial Fundraiser Dinner* at the Angola Public Library.

Agenda Item I – Public Comment. Liaison from the County Executive’s Office David Bojanowski stated that he is the Director of Constituent Services for Erie County. His duties include hearing from community members. Community members usually come to his office for everything from highways to roads, real property taxes, and general questions. He shared that he is happy to be a liaison to the Board and he has utilized and continues to utilize the Central Library frequently, especially the Grosvenor Room for musical scores.

Agenda Item J – Unfinished Business. None.

Agenda Item K – New Business. None.

Agenda Item L – Adjournment. There being no further business, on a motion by Trustee Amodeo with a second by Trustee Sasiadek, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Moore
Secretary