

AURORA TOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
550 Main Street, East Aurora, New York 14052

March 25, 2025 Minutes

Present: Martha Buyer, Kara Spencer-Ching, Elaine Chow, Sashi Racho, Adam Zaremski, Paula Ausberger, ATPL Director

President Spencer-Ching called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

1. Comments from the audience:

Jennifer Crow said she was there to learn more and wanted to be involved in some way to support the library.

2. A motion (MB, EC) to approve Minutes of the Meeting: February 25, 2025 was carried by a voice vote.

3. A motion (AZ, MB) to approve the Treasurer's Report: Monthly Financial Statements, Internal Auditor, & Contingency Fund Reports: February 2025 was carried by a voice vote.

During discussion, Ausberger said ATPL was not projected to owe anything back to Central for 2024 as ATPL was under budget by \$26,000.

4. A motion (EC, SR) to approve the Director's Report: February 2025 was carried by a voice vote.

During discussion, Ausberger said ATPL was still ranking high (11 out of 37 circulation, 12 out of 37 for patron visits) despite lower numbers overall across the system in February. It was thought the weather and February break for schools may have contributed to the lower numbers.

Ausberger also said ATPL had three recent outreach visits with the East Aurora Middle School Explorer's Club, Duck Duck Goose child care facility and the East Aurora Cooperative Market.

KSP asked if ATPL could include the Boys & Girls Club of East Aurora as an outreach center. Ausberger said the ATPL Children's Librarian has contact with the Boys & Girls Club. She will check in with the Children's Librarian about reaching out to the Boys & Girls Club to discuss visits to the Library or the Club.

5. Reports of Interest

a. "Dusk at a French Farm" painted by Alexis Jean Fournier in 1898 has been installed on a wall above the J-Fiction collection to introduce more people to this piece of fine art.

b. The Library of Things collection has been expanded with the addition of several new items: a Kodak Slide N Scan (which converts film and slides into digital format), Clue Sabotage on the High Seas, The Uzzle 3.0, Wavelength: The Party Game, and the Original Telestrations Board Game. These fun additions are made possible through funds donated by Alice Askew.

c. Children ages 6-11 who check out five items or more during a visit to ATPL in March will earn a free Women's History Month Raffle ticket for an opportunity to win books about inspiring women from history and Buffalo Museum of Science passes.

Ausberger said they are using books from donations to use as prizes.

d. The East Aurora Theatre Arts Booster Club is holding a clothing drive at ATPL to support their group from March 14 until April 11.

Ausberger said the booster club is with the East Aurora school drama club. It can take used clothing and sell to Savers by the pound to earn funds for the club.

e. ATPL wants to hear the thoughts of our adult patrons, ages 50+, to help us plan future programs and collection offerings. Feedback will be accepted until Friday, April 4, 2025.

Ausberger said 81 people had responded at this time.

f. Other

Ausberger early survey results showed people want autobiographies and biographies in a separate section. ATPL staff will begin the task soon.

6. Personnel

a. Payroll Report Pay Period 26 & System Paid Budget Analysis as of 12/31/2024

Racho said that the 2025 budget appears to be under budget related to personnel. Ausberger said a caretaker is on leave and another person is doing the work, but at a lower rate, which will affect the Payroll Reports for 2025. Having personnel vacancies in 2024 lead to reduced expenses at ATPL for personnel.

b. There was no reason for the board to enter into an executive session.

c. Other

7. Old Business

a. Artwork “Dusk at French Farm” – 1898, Alexis Jean Fournier Loan from Aurora Historical Society Signed Loan Agreement

Ausberger said the contract was updated based on recommendations from the board, and the Town of Aurora sent a person over to help with hanging the painting.

b. “Strawberry Social”– 2020 Oil on Linen Painting, 12” x 18” Paul Brinkworth donation.

Ausberger said the Aurora Town Supervisor and Town Attorney were looking over insurance related to paintings in the library. More information is needed before a decision is made. The Aurora Town Board must approve ATPL property to be insured. The donation is on hold until questions related to insuring the painting are settled.

c. ACT Workshop: March 22 @ 8:30 a.m.

Buyer said the reviews from attendees were happy with the day. The next ACT meeting is Saturday, May 31 at the Clarence Library.

Buyer also suggested Ausberger reach out to local elected officials and invite them to do a reading to children and give the officials a sense of what the library means to the community. It was a suggestion during the ACT meeting.

Ausberger said Erie County Legislator Lindsay Lorigo, as well as other county legislators who represented ATPL, has been invited recently, but she would begin reaching out to others.

d. Climate Challenge Game Night: April 7 @ 6-7:30 p.m. ATPL trustees and Ausberger said they would participate.

8. New Business

a. Other

The annual and next regularly scheduled meeting will be on April 22, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

A motion (EC, MB) to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 pm was carried by a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Zaremski

Secretary