

**Lackawanna Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 27th 2021**

- In Attendance: Bill Tojek, Dean Otoka, Jennifer Johnston, Lynn Dziak, and Andrea Haxton. Call to order 5:30 pm.
- The Board meeting was held in person at the library. Everyone that attended wore masks and practiced social distancing. Board meetings are open to the public. There was no public comment.
- The minutes from the previous board meeting were reviewed and accepted. Minutes are posted on social media, posted on our bulletin boards and copies are made available to the public.
- Financials were reviewed and accepted.
- The Board voted to appoint Dean Otoka as our Vice President. Voting for offices usually occurs on an annual basis in February. Our Vice President resigned and we needed to fill the position.
- We welcomed a new board member, Lynn Dziak. She is a member of the Lackawanna Historical Association and volunteers her time in our local history museum.
- We received the booklets for the Erie County Heritage Passport program. Lynn spent a lot of time making sure that our display cases in the museum are filled with exciting memorabilia from Lackawanna. Hopefully the passport program will give us the opportunity to share our local history with families in Erie County.
- We got the okay from Central Administration to hire a page. We have been short 2 pages since the beginning of year. Our Library Assistant will also be out for an extended period of time due to an injury. Jen will temporarily give the staff extra hours to cover any shortages.

- Jennifer applied for Bullet Aid through Assemblyman Pat Burke's office. We are hoping to get funding to hire performers for a series of family programs this summer. The New York State Summer Reading Theme is "Tails and Tales". The programs we choose will relate to the summer theme. For example we would like to bring in the Buffalo Zoo, Niagara Aquarium, and a petting farm. We would also like to bring in storytellers and puppeteers.
- Bill is in the process of applying for funding through several initiatives. We would like to put gas inserts in the fireplaces, replace the rest of the windows and replace doors. The object is to restore as much as we can to maintain the historical integrity of the building in order to be placed on the registry of historical sites.
- Andrea is heading a committee to plan for the Lackawanna Library's Centennial Celebrations 1922-2022. There was discussion of hosting a "Roaring Twenties" themed gala with food, drinks and music. We talked about having a "Beer and Blue Jeans" themed party in the library's back yard to raise money. The Historical Association is also planning events for the week of the Centennial. Lynn and Dean will research some notable events or happenings in 1922.
- The Board decided that we would like to have a work session and discussion with our government officials regarding repairs and updates that the building needs. Bill will reach out at the next Lackawanna City Council meeting.
- We were saddened to hear that Loretta Sterling passed. Dean spoke with her family and they will decide what they would like to do with all of the Sterling's negatives and photos that are stored at the library.
- The library would like to have a presence at Lackawanna's National Night Out. We would like to have a table to share information about the library services and programs. We may be able to bring a simple craft or bookmarks to pass out.
- The next meeting will be held on June 23 @ 5:30 pm.

