

AURORA TOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY
550 Main Street, East Aurora, New York 14052
January 28, 2025, Minutes

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

President Spencer-Ching called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. There were no comments from the audience.
2. A motion (EC, MB) to approve the Minutes of the Meeting: December 17, 2024 was carried by a voice vote.
3. A motion (MB, AZ) to approve the Treasurer's Report: Monthly Financial Statements, Internal Auditor, & Contingency Fund Reports: December 2024 was carried by a voice vote.
4. A motion (EC, AZ) to approve the Director's Report: December 2024 was carried by a voice vote.

During discussion, Ausberger said ATPL was maintaining a high ranking based on circulation across all libraries in the system. She also showcased how often ATPL and its activities were featured in local news outlets this past year. KSC said it was impressive to see and shows the success of the library programming.

Ausberger said ATPL was able to raise additional funds for the library and programs in 2024 because of support from community partners - noting a recent partnership with the East Aurora Co-op. She said a partnership is continuing with that business with outreach planned.

5. Reports of Interest

a. ATPL received two passes for free general admission to the Buffalo Museum of Science for a one-time visit through the Check It Out! Program sponsored by M&T Bank. Each pass is good for up to four individuals, one of whom must be an adult 18 years or older. Passes may be checked out on an adult library card and circulated for 10 days. This partnership is good for a year. Circulation rules are dictated by Central. A patron takes out the card and turns it into the museum, which then returns it back to Central so it can get back into the hands of the contracting library.

KSC asked if it would be possible for ATPL to purchase a pass of its own instead of working through Central. She thought it could be similar to what was done for the New York Empire Pass, which allows access to state parks. Ausberger was unsure if this was possible at this time.

MB said she would ask Buffalo AKG Art Museum about obtaining a pass that could be checked out at ATPL.

b. The Children's Librarian collaborated with the Director to apply for the B&ECPL Equipment & Technology Funding Grant to support the introduction of Yoto Mini Player kits to our successful Library of Things Collection. Parents have asked for access to a Yoto Player. Obtaining this grant would meet that need, and provide a wide variety of quality audio content for the entertainment and education of our community's children.

Ausberger noted other libraries in North America have this item and how popular it is with patrons at those locations.

c. ATPL is participating in Winter Fest 2025 by holding a “Snowlandia” winter carnival for families with children ages 3-11.

d. Other

6. Personnel

a. There was no payroll report at this time.

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

c. A motion (AZ, MB) to appoint Rachael Nicolosi as a PT Librarian I, as selected and hired by the Director, starting Pay Period 3, was carried by a voice vote.

During the discussion, KSC asked if Ausberger would submit Nicolosi’s resume to the board to review qualifications. KSC thought one would be available before the board appointed the librarian hired by the Director. Ausberger said she believed that request was only for full-time hirings, not part-time positions. KSC said she would like ATPL trustees to see all resumes of full-time and librarian positions before the board appoints them. AZ suggested the board approve the hiring at this meeting as it was a formality and Nicolosi has already begun working at the library. It was agreed that when the Director selects a candidate for full-time and part-time librarian positions, she will will send the resumes to the board for review.

Immediately following the meeting, Ausberger sent Nicolosi’s resume to the board.

d. Due to the minimum wage increase, effective January 1, 2025, the hourly rates for Pages and Sr. Pages have increased: Pages - \$15.50 per hour and Sr. Pages – \$16.50 per hour

e. Other

7. Old Business

a. A motion (EC, AZ) to approve the Schedule of Meetings of the Library Board for 2025 was carried by a voice vote.

8. New Business

a. “Agreement for Outgoing Loan” Form (Incoming to ATPL) – Aurora Historical Society

Rachel Francis Moyer, a member of the Aurora Historical Society (AHS), was present to discuss the possibility of loaning a painting, “Dusk at the French Farm”, owned by AHS to ATPL. This piece is by Alexis Jean Fournier. Moyer said the artwork had been with AHS for some time and there was a desire to display it in a place for public viewing.

She said ATPL could hold on to the painting as a loan for as long as it wanted. AHS would cover the insurance for the painting, which has a value between \$5,000 to \$10,000. Moyer said AHS would donate lighting for the painting.

After some discussion, ATPL thanked Moyer and AHS for the offer and agreed to the loan as long as the loan agreement was edited by AHS.

A motion (MB, EC) to accept an incoming painting as a loan from the Aurora Historical Society based on the agreement proposed by AHS was carried by a voice vote. The loan will be for one year with the option to renew if both parties agree to the extension.

b. Compliance Officer Report

EC filled out the form for 2024 and confirmed there were zero incidents.

c. Other

MB noted that a general contracting library meeting will be March 22 at the Central Library in Buffalo. It will be from 8:30 to 1:00 p.m. and counts towards training for library trustees.

The next regularly scheduled ATPL meeting will be on February 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

A motion (EC, MB) to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. was carried by a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted

Adam Zaremski

Secretary