

Negaunee Public Library Board
10:15 a.m., May 10, 2022
Negaunee Public Library Children's Area

The public is welcome to attend in person or via Zoom.

Zoom meeting ID: 820 9140 6211

Passcode: 338649

Attend at <http://www.zoom.com> or by calling 1-312-626-6799

1. Call to order
2. Secretary's Report
3. Public Comment
4. Financial Report
5. Librarian's Report
6. Communications
7. Unfinished Business
 - a. Library board status and Negaunee Township contract
 - i. SLC's attorney's opinions (guest: Dillon Geshel, Superiorland Library Cooperative)
 - ii. Now what?
 - b.
8. New Business
 - a. Upcoming events
 - i. Sandstrom plaque dedication this afternoon
 - ii. Friends book sale (Township hall)
 - iii. Summer reading/concert
 - b. Jessica on vacation May 20-23
 - c.
9. Adjourn

Next meeting: June 21, 2022

Officers:

President: Al Sundine

Vice President: Laura Jandron

Secretary: Eyre Becker

Negaunee Public Library Board
Minutes for April 12, 2022

Members present: E. Becker, L. Jandron, A. Sundine, M. Sylvester and J. Holman, Library Director. .

Meeting called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Pres. A. Sundine. Minutes of the meeting on March 15, 2021, as submitted by E. Becker were approved.

Public Comment: None.

Financial Report: All bills were paid as of April 1, 2022.

Communication:

1.State aid letter.

- A. A letter from Kathy Webb (State Aid and Penal Fines) indicates a deficit of \$3,223 between the city of Negaunee and Negaunee Township. The concern is that the numbers are based on data from 2020 and that 40% of the state aid will be lost from serving the township.

2. Letter of concern.

- A. A letter penned to the Library Advisory Board from J. Holman expressed explicit concern about the ongoing negotiations between the city and the township. J. Holman has attempted to intercede on both the library and board's behalf and has met with adversity. The primary concern is the potential loss of the Negaunee Township patrons- who account for 40% of the penal fines; this, combined with the potential loss of state aid would amount to a deficit of \$9,273.49 per year.

Librarian's Report: Librarian's report was provided in the board packet. J. Holman reported that groups are once again meeting in the library. The Sandstrom plaque dedication ceremony will be May 10th. Friends of the Negaunee Public library will be holding a book sale at the Negaunee Township Hall on May 17th. Contract negotiations between the township and the city remain contentious and unresolved.

Unfinished Business:

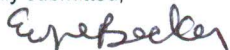
1. The Negaunee Township contract from 1965 is in the process of being amended with the hopes that the township will offer fiscal contributions to help fund the library and will receive 2 board members from the township to add to the Negaunee Public Library Advisory Board.
2. Board president, A. Sundine and library director, J. Holman penned a letter to Senator Peters to request funding for a new handicap accessible ramp for the library and city hall.

New Business:

1. The Library board status should technically be a governing body, not an advisory board. The information has been sent to the Superiorland Library Cooperative attorney, Anne Seurnyck, for further advisement
2. Upcoming events for the library include:
 - a. Dedication of the Sandstrom plaque on 5/10.
 - b. F.O.L. book sale at Negaunee Township Hall on 5/17.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 with the next scheduled meeting to be held May 10, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Eyre Becker

Negaunee Public Library Advisory Board Secretary

Negaunee Public Library

Financial Report

April 12, 2022

All bills were paid through April 1, 2022.

Bills to be paid May 1, 2022:

Baker & Taylor	405.31 (books)
Charter/Spectrum	48.98 (monthly internet)
MicroMarketing	141.88 (audiobooks)
	26.35 (large print)
Penworthy	252.00 (children's books, on sale)

Negaunee Public Library Board

May 10, 2022

Librarian's Report

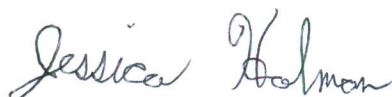
Let's start with the bad news. Our state aid for this year and next year will be reduced because our revenue does not meet 3/10th of a mil for the property taxable values of the fiscal year the state aid is based upon. For example, this year's state aid is based on fiscal year (FY) 2020. Our service area's taxable value for that year is \$300,287,461. Three-tenths of that is \$90,086. Our revenue for FY2020 was \$86,863.

The short explanation is, our budget is not increasing while property values in our service area are going up. The state does not feel our municipalities are giving the library a fair share of money, and so the state does not help.

The good news is that if the library board, the City of Negaunee, and Negaunee Township reach a new service agreement, the deficit in what our revenue should be will be fixed – for FY2022 and beyond.

Pre-pandemic activities are resuming in the library. The knitters are meeting in person in the Reading Room again, and we appreciate their return. The Next Chapter Book Club, for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, may also soon return to the library as well. At least some summer reading activities may be indoors, but planning is still ongoing. Curbside pickup use has dropped off significantly, and we are now seeing only one or two patrons using it each week.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Holman, director