

THE TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY
100 W. Dover St.
Easton, MD 21601
Minutes of the Board Meeting
July 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Robert Forloney. Meeting held at the Easton Library.

Attendees: Charles Yonkers, Andrew Thaler, Robert Forloney, Terry Moore, Pete Leshner, Talbot County Council Liaison, Sue Regier, Mary Pellicano, Sandy Boyd, Mia Mazzeo & Vivi Morris, Student Liaisons to the Board, Director, Dana Newman, Scotti Oliver, Assistant Director, Shauna Beulah, St. Michaels Branch Manager, Represented the TCFL, Emilie Knud-Hansen, TCFL Friend representative and Judy Campbell, TCFL staff taking notes.
Excused: Susan Sherman, Becky Amaral, Ron Engle & Robert Rankin, Town of Easton Liaison

Absent: Alexis Roiter

Action Items:

- **Board members voted on and approved the June 26, 2025 minutes.**
- **Board members voted on and approved the Treasurer's Report: Income and Expense Statement, Statement of Activities report and the Quarterly Balance sheet.**
- **Board members discussed the Solicitation Policy but decided to hold off on voting until revisions can be made.**
- **A reminder that the board meeting that was scheduled for October 16 will be held on Tuesday, November 4th at 5pm so that all can enjoy the October 16th Gala celebration.**

June 26, 2025 Minutes – Charlie Yonkers moved to accept, Sand Boyd seconded. Motion passed.

Guest – Theresa (Res) Kowalski, Circulation and Person in Charge, St. Michael's. Res shared that she had worked with the Delaware Library Access Services and Delaware HSS. She was the assistant director in Seaford. Res will begin teaching Digital Literacy Classes at the St. Michael's Senior Center on August 5th. At St. Michael's, she has been working on displays, *Dungeons and Dragons* Night and is working on an adult scavenger hunt.

Advocacy – Charlie Yonkers discussed the teen board liaisons and their impact as well as the letters of congratulations for our teen liaisons, Vivi and Mia. Emilie asked about Mary Honeman and STEAM Camp pictures. Sandy Boyd recommended an application process for coming years for applying to be the teen liaisons to the board. Support from the Friends will be ongoing. Dana discussed our teen liaisons; we will include St. Michael's after the renovation. She shared advocacy opportunities for the Board; our Oral History Project with interviews in August and the Elin Hildebrand fund raising event. Four board volunteers are needed for registration.

Old Business – None

New Business – There will be a St. Michael's hard hat tour and the Board is invited. Dana will coordinate dates with the construction company and send out dates. Emilie sent kudos on the new construction blog. *On the Shelf* has been filmed and the eBlast has been sent out.

St. Michael's Update – Dana shared photos of the inside and outside of the St. Michael's library. Andrew Thaler shared that the building is on schedule to be finished by November, with final furniture, books, and shelving needing to be moved in during December and January. Furniture has been ordered along with the EV charger. There will be a holds locker as part of a pilot program. We are asking the Foundation for \$100,000. A community mural will be installed after completion of the library.

Staff Handbook Update – The solicitation and distribution of the proposed Solicitation policy is under review. Dana suggested changing company to library; Sandy Boyd suggested taking the NLRA out as it is specifically written in regard to unions. Andrew Thaler suggested defining solicitation, etc. It was decided to hold off on voting until revisions were made.

Brick Campaign – We will market as much as we can. Large bricks are \$300 and a small brick is \$100. A corporate brick is \$800. We are working with the company to finalize the wording for how to order a brick. Purchases can be made directly online with the company.

FY 2025 Fiscal Wrap-up – All monies have been received from county and state grants. The Statement of Activities was reviewed with a big thank you to the Friends for their contribution. Emilie shared that the Friend's donations are at \$12,000 for memberships and the Friends will donate \$50,000 toward the St. Michaels expansion and renovation project. We are anticipating \$600,000 in grants from the past fiscal year and are growing Foundation donor efforts. We will have an auditor pre-visit, Monday 21 July.

Treasurer's Report - \$450,000 Foundation monies for St. Michael's. Emilie asked when the Foundation wants the \$50,000 from the Friends. The library received \$5,000 from the

Preston Auto Group per Sue Regier. Pete Leshner questioned the \$500,000 in accounts receivable. Dana said that she would get specifics for him and responded to him by email the next week. Sandy Boyd moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Sue Regier seconded the motion. The motion passed.

County Council – Pete Leshner brought up the One Maryland, One Book. We will have talking points from Maryland Humanities. Scotti mentioned that we are working with Chesapeake College and Washington College in regards to the One Maryland, One Book: *Kin* by Carole Boston Weatherford to arrange for an author presentation at Chesapeake College.

Librarian's Report – Dana shared a great story with the board. During the July staff meeting, a gentleman knocked on the door and wanted to express his thanks for working with his daughter in the children's area and presented a check for \$10,000. Storytime has become very popular with a recent Storytime having around 100 in attendance.

Nominating Committee – Looking for suggestions for people to join the Board. A reminder was included that we are looking for diversity in our Board.

Friend's Report – Emilie was introduced, and all welcomed her as the new representative to the Board.

Next Meeting – 18 September at 5pm at the Easton library.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm.