

The Monticello-Union Township Public Library Board of Trustees met in regular session at the Temp (934 N. Main St.) on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. Present were Director Candace Wells, Treasurer/Bookkeeper Sharon Bail, Managers Tammy Criminger and Scott Miller, and trustees Tom Fletcher, Butch Kramer, Don Osten, Jo Piatt, Teresa Puterbaugh, and Emily Thacker. Trustee Chuck Kubly was absent. Also attending were Terry and Claire Lacy, father and daughter artists, to describe their Public Art Project for the Broadway library (acoustical panels design plans) and to answer any questions.

Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Public Comments – Board President Don Osten called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. As moved by Butch Kramer and seconded by Jo Piatt, the board approved the agenda as presented, which was slightly rearranged to allow Terry and Claire’s portion of the meeting to precede routine business. (Public Comments - NA)

Approval of the Minutes – The minutes of the June 9, 2025, regular session were approved as corrected as moved by Butch and seconded by Tom Fletcher. Then, following the revised agenda, the board considered New Business.

New Business – The board addressed several items of New Business.

1. Acoustical Panel Design – Candace briefed trustees on background work that she and Tammy Criminger had been doing on these sound panels. Then artist Terry Lacy introduced himself, sharing some of his education and experience, especially noting his work on the Delphi Interpretive Center at the Wabash and Erie Canal Park. He described the “rough draft” of the six (6) sound panel visual centerpiece that would hang above the circulation desk at the remodeled MUTPL. (See HO on Public Art Proposal.) Terry is working on this with his daughter, Claire, who also introduced herself, saying that she especially likes to work with color and incorporating “the human condition.” Trustees were able to note descriptions and placement specifics of the fabric soundproofing panels in the Project Overview HO, including the “rough visualization” of the 6-panel centerpiece. As moved by Jo Piatt and seconded by Emily Thacker, the board then approved Option 1 of the MUTPL Public Art Proposal as described, a \$5,000 budgeted sound panel project that leans into “abstracted water fields and includes flowing shapes that echo rivers and streams.” Terry and Claire will work with the management team on a final version of the design. Jo asked to be included in previewing the designs before final approval. Candace will share the final design with the board members. Trustees thanked Terry and Claire for their presentation, especially their initial version of the main panel (which the board really liked), and they left the meeting.
2. Phase 2 South Lawn Project – As moved by Butch Kramer and seconded by Teresa Puterbaugh, the board approved Change Order #2 for building and landscaping work on the South Lawn Project. NOTE: Bruce Lyons of Norway Gardens did not submit a bid on this project, as originally indicated. He did, however, make suggestions and recommendations, providing local input that has been considered.
3. Huston Electric Quote for AV in Program Room – As moved by Butch and seconded by Jo, and as approved and recommended by MUTPL’s Scott Miller, trustees accepted Huston Tech’s bids for a total of \$17,360 for the Turnkey re-installation of the projection system, etc., in the program room.
4. Affidavit for Building Project Payment – As moved by Don Osten and seconded by Butch, the board approved the payments by The Huntington National Bank from the Leasing Corporation’s construction fund to TD Construction Company for ongoing work and to others as listed on the affidavit (See HO’s for itemized expenditures).

Business & Finance: Treasurer Report/Claims – Treasurer/Bookkeeper Sharon Bail highlighted our June Tax Draw, totaling \$304,860.25, on the front page of her green HO. Our first bond payment (\$424,858.33) was also noted; she will wire a payment every six (6) months. The board again looked over the 2026 Budget Proposal, and she reminded the board that we must have a quorum to approve advertising this proposed budget at the 8/11/25 meeting. After reviewing claims from 6/1/25 to 6/30/25, the board approved the financial report and June claims of \$510,421.44, as moved by Jo Piatt and seconded by Tom Fletcher. In final financial business, trustees approved the 2026 Salary Ordinance, an annual requirement, as moved by Emily and seconded by Butch.

Old Business – The board then addressed two (2) issues.

1. Update on Building Project – Construction work continues, as do regular updates every two weeks on progress and concerns. (See Dir. Rpt. for specifics.) Because of a brick vendor error, they are 2-3 weeks behind schedule but may be able to make that up. Somehow the Area Plan missed approving the tower height and sign moving, so we need to get variances this Thursday night for these oversights. The projected completion is still predicted for November with move in for December; however, the possibility of delays could push our reopening into 2026. Therefore, as recommended by Candace and moved by Butch and seconded by Jo, the board approved extending our lease for the Temp with Regency Property from October 31, 2025, to December 31, 2025 (See Lease Agreement HO with commencement date change to 10/31/25).
2. The Art and Sherry Morgan Room – As moved by Jo and seconded by Don, trustees voted to officially name the program room The Art and Sherry Morgan Room in memory and honor of their many years of contributions to our library.

Director's Report – Candace gave a very abbreviated report, asking trustees to please read over the Dir. Rpt HO, noting that it listed her activities as usual, plus any major management concerns. She did specify that MUTPL is in compliance with all requirements for 2025. And she reminded the board of the upcoming Broadway Art Show (7/25-26), which will be simplified somewhat this year due to space constraints at the Temp. Candace also shared family health issues that she's dealing with while still working on her many duties here. Trustees expressed their concern and appreciation for the continued excellent job she's been doing.

President's Comments/Adjournment – Having no further business to come before the board, Don called for any final questions or comments. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 6:29 with no objections.

The next regular meeting of the MUTPL Board of Trustees is scheduled for **Monday, August 11, 2025, at 5 p.m.** at the Temp (934 N. Main St.).

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Thacker, Secretary