



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Derringer Joins Library Board of Trustees**

**[DEFIANCE]** – During Wednesday night’s regular meeting of the Defiance Public Library System’s (DPLS) Board of Trustees, Jenny Derringer was sworn in to serve as the board’s seventh member.

Derringer will finish the term of former Board President Laura Rath-Connor, which extends to Dec. 31, 2027. Dennis Sobecki currently serves as board president.

Derringer spent 36 years working for the Defiance *Crescent-News*, serving as a photographer, reporter, and education editor, among other roles. She retired in 2021.

“I have kept active in volunteering throughout my community. I’ve been a lifelong supporter of the Defiance Public Library System, and joining the Board of Trustees seemed like a good fit,” Derringer said, adding that she is looking forward to making Defiance Public Library System’s annex project a success.

In other business Wednesday, the board:

- Reviewed a chart comparing 2023/2024 statistics
- Discussed impending changes to Ohio’s longstanding public library funding formula, which previously guaranteed libraries a portion of state tax revenue but will be replaced

by a line-item appropriation. The new model could result in at least an \$80,000 loss for DPLS between now and June 30, 2026, Potter said, adding DPLS is still faring better than other Ohio libraries. Potter said the reduction will be offset by adjusting the materials budget and will not impact staffing or the annex project. Additionally, possible federal cuts to the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) could impact cargo delivery and e-book availability. Potter noted that DPLS does not receive a significant amount of LSTA funding.

- Heard that renovations are now underway at Hicksville's Johnson Memorial Library.
- Heard from Potter that an agreement with architecture and design firm SHP related to design services for the annex project is still under review by lawyers. No related action was taken.
- Accepted the resignations of Zeke Tracy, DPL children's services associate, and Kalista McKinney, branch associate at Johnson Memorial Library.

The DPLS Board of Trustees will meet again on Wednesday, Aug. 27, at Defiance Public Library, 320 Fort St., beginning at 5 p.m.