



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Taryn Lawson, communications coordinator

tmlawson@defiancelibrary.org

419-782-1456 ext. 1106

Defiance Public Library

320 Fort St.

Defiance, OH 43512

ph. 419-782-1456

fax. 419-782-6235

Johnson Memorial Library

116 W High St.,

Hicksville, OH 43526

ph. 419-542-6200

fax. 419-542-1015

Sherwood Branch Library

117 N Harrison

Sherwood, OH 43556

ph. 419-899-4343

fax. 419-899-3479

www.defiancelibrary.org

Library Board Discusses Annex, Member Resignation

[DEFIANCE] – Defiance Public Library’s annex project is moving ahead, as Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) Director Cara Potter advised the board at Wednesday’s regular meeting that she anticipates signing a contract with design firm SHP soon.

Potter also reported that the library plans to formally kick off fundraising efforts when it hosts a Chamber After-hours event on Oct. 16 from 5–7 p.m. The library will close early, at 4:30 p.m., that day.

In other news, the trustees heard that S.G. Brugler has stepped down from the board.

Board members also passed a motion certifying the Defiance County Tax Resolution, estimating the library system will receive \$714,700 in 2026, the fourth year of its current five-year levy.

Also Wednesday, the board:

- heard that Johnson Memorial Library has received a \$385,000 gift from the Estate of Emma Conley to be used for furniture, materials, programming, shelving, and equipment. The money will not be used to cover operational costs.

- heard a report from the Finance Committee indicating that the July Public Library Fund (PLF) was \$128,144, a reduction of 12.7% from the 2025 budget, but that year-to-date, the PLF is favorable by 3.68% from the 2025 budget. CFO Kristi Keefer informed the committee that an agreement has been signed with retired State Auditor Doug Zimmerman for assistance in updating the business office's financial systems. In terms of cash flow, Keefer reported that year-to-date total receipts continue to track favorably as compared to expenses.
- approved a policy allowing the DPLS Board and its committees to hold virtual/hybrid meetings under some circumstances provided significant hiring decisions (director, CFO) are not being made, and the board is not handling unbudgeted expenditures of \$5,000 or more. All existing meeting notice and public participation rules apply.
- passed an update to the Collection Development Policy clarifying deaccession of materials.
- approved changes to DPLS' unscheduled absences policy, to apply to staff not covered by the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The policy will be revisited when the CBA is renegotiated in 2026, Potter said.

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