



## Library Board January 2023 Meeting

February 9, 5:30 pm  
VPL 2nd Floor Community Meeting Room

Call to order: SAA, MA, DB, CC, JC, MJ, SJ, MR

1. Approve Agenda
2. Approve Minutes January 2022
3. Public Comment
4. Continuing Business
  - a. Feasibility Study Update
5. New Business
  - a. Annual Report 2022
  - b. Director Evaluation
  - c. Consider Tuesday Meeting Day
6. Director's Report
  - a. Statistical Report
  - b. Financial Report
7. Adjourn

## Director's Report

### Feasibility Study

The results are not surprising, and confirms my most pessimistic perspective. We have a challenge ahead of us and much work to do! Basically, the expectation is we can raise \$1.4M from local individuals/businesses. I think it is important to continue moving forward to a campaign to raise awareness of what needs to be funded and the benefits for the community. I do think going to the ballot in a few years is realistic. I will be talking with the City Administrator & Planning in the next couple of weeks to consider some grant strategies. The Baron site design development through the EPA funds is very exciting. These funds are for development of a site plan with elevations. To take that plan to the next steps will be another partnership with the City, Main St and Planning.

### Staff

We have begun a weekly Wednesday afternoon meeting with all staff except the pages. It is great to have everyone around the table to increase communication and address shared concerns. We are working on the year's events so planning is done proactively. All seem to work together well.

### Programs/Events

Ashland Adult Literacy is now working on recruiting learners. The four volunteer tutors or literacy coaches are working on training materials. The jail is going through some personnel transitions, so we have not been as consistent with that project. But are currently building another box of used and purchased (Friends of the Library) box of paperbacks to drop off. Cole has added a movie night and a trivia night to our repertoire. We'll see how these take off. Hannah is sorting through the closets, coming up with activities to use up art supplies. She's resourceful and enthusiastic. Phil's one-on-one tech help continues to be in demand. And Lisa is doing the groundwork for a spring Kentucky Derby ticketed-event at the Local.

### Book Recommendation

It is kind of a tie between two books this month. Liberation Day by George Saunders is his latest collection of short stories. The first story is so bizarre, but so grounded in current culture it struck me as both humorous and desperate. It is worth picking up just for that first story alone. The other title is Entangled Life: How Fungi make our worlds, Change our Minds and Shape our Futures by Merlin Sheldrake (that's really his name). I predict 2023 as the year of the mushroom, so get on board! Sheldrake is in awe of fungi and I was too after reading his book.

*Sarah Adams, Director*

