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**TO:** Plymouth District Library Board

**DATE:** 04 January 2021

**RE:** 2021 Election of Officers

**FROM:** Carol Souchock  
Director

Library by-laws call for election of officers at the annual meeting in January. The current officers are: President Anderson, Vice-President Harper, Treasurer Pappas, and Secretary George. All have served **two terms** in office and, under Board by-laws, are **not eligible to serve another term** in the same office. President Anderson, or Vice President Harper in his absence, will open the annual meeting and will run the election of officers, **agenda item 2**. New terms of office commence immediately after the election.

A copy of the Board by-laws outlining the duties of the officers is attached. Although there are a number of duties assigned to the Secretary and Treasurer, these two officers actually provide an oversight function, as procedural duties have been delegated to staff. The Secretary reviews and edits meeting minutes prepared by the Library Secretary prior to their distribution to the Board for approval. The Treasurer reviews checks and invoices prepared by the Business and Human Resource Administrator every week (requiring a weekly visit to the Library), working with the Director and Business Manager to verify that policies and procedures are carried out. The President provides leadership to and for the Board, and needs to be available on a regular basis to work with the Director to maintain a productive role for the Board in developing policy and a strong organization. Other than filling in when the President is absent, the VP does not have assigned duties.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I  
NAME

Section 1. This organization shall officially be known as the Plymouth District Library. However, this organization may also be referred to as the Plymouth Dunning-Hough District Library.

ARTICLE II  
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. In accordance with Public Act 24 of 1989 (the “District Library Establishment Act”) the Board of Trustees of the Plymouth District Library shall consist of seven (7) members elected from the District at large for terms of four (4) years, who shall serve until the election and qualification of a successor.

Section 2. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment by majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Trustees until the expiration of the vacating board member’s term, unless such vacancy occurs 140 days or more before the first regularly scheduled election of board members that follows the beginning of the term of the board member vacating office. In such case, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the District Library Establishment Act.

ARTICLE III  
POWERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1. The Board of Trustees may exercise any and all of the powers granted to it in the District Library Establishment Act or other law. The Board may delegate such powers to the Officers of the Board and/or the Library Director as it deems necessary and as permitted by law.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall have the exclusive control of the budget of the District Library.

Section 3. The fiscal year of the District Library shall be January 1 through December 31.

Section 4. The Board of Trustees shall approve a budget prior to January 1 of the fiscal year. A budget proposal shall be submitted by the Library Director at a meeting of the Board September preceding the fiscal year. A budget proposal must be approved by a majority of the Board members present at an official meeting.

Section 5. The Board of Trustees may require the Treasurer or Library Director to submit to the Board on a monthly basis data regarding the actual and estimated budget to date. The

Board may then revise or amend the budget as deemed necessary by a majority of Board members voting on the questions.

#### ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers of the Board of Trustees shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected for a term of one year at the Annual Meeting of the Board.

Section 3. Vacancies in office shall be filled by the Board at the next regular meeting of the Board following the occurrence of a vacancy, except for the office of President, in which case the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the office for the unexpired term. A successor Vice-President shall be elected to fill the vacancy so created in that office.

Section 4. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive one-year terms in the same office.

#### ARTICLE V DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees with the approval of the Board, authorize calls for any special meetings and generally perform the duties of a presiding officer.

Section 2. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. In the case of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall assume the office for the unexpired term.

Section 3. The Secretary of the Board shall see that a true and accurate account of all proceedings of the Board meetings is kept. In compliance with any requirements of state law regarding the holding of meetings, the Secretary shall issue notices of all regular meetings, and, on the authorization of the President, of all special meetings, and shall have custody of the minutes and other records of the Board of Trustees. With the approval of a majority of the Board, the Secretary may delegate any of these responsibilities to the Library Director.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Plymouth District Library, providing for their safe custody and investment as directed by the Board, subject to limitations for investment of public funds as provided by law. The Treasurer shall control expenditures from the Library fund through a system of vouchers presented by authorized personnel. A record of all moneys received or deposited to the Library fund, and all disbursements, sales and transfers from the fund shall be kept by the Treasurer, and reported monthly to the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting. In addition, the Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may

be prescribed for him or her by State or Federal law and these by-laws. With the approval of a majority of the Board, the Treasurer may delegate any of these responsibilities to the Library Director.

## ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

Section 1. The regular meeting of the Plymouth District Board of Trustees shall be held each month, the date and hour to be set by the Board at its annual meeting. Within ten (10) days following the annual meeting a notice shall be posted in a public place setting forth the dates, times, and places of all regular meetings scheduled for the ensuing year. Any changes to the schedule, as required, shall be posted in a public notice stating the new dates, times, and places of its regular meetings within 3 days after the meeting at which the change is made. For a rescheduled regular meeting, a public notice stating the date, time, and place of the meeting shall also be posted at least 18 hours before the meeting. The Library may also post the changes in the monthly announcement of the regular meeting.

Section 2. The Annual Meeting of the Plymouth District Library Board of Trustees shall be the first regular meeting of the fiscal year, and shall be for the purpose of the election of officers and consideration of such other organizational matters as may be required.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or upon written request of two Trustees, provided eighteen (18) hours of notice is given of the time and purpose for which such meeting is called. For a special meeting, a public notice stating the date, time, and place of the meeting shall be posted at least 18 hours before the meeting. Trustees not present at the time of announcement of such special meeting shall be notified by the Secretary.

Section 4. Notices of regular meetings with agenda shall be posted in a public place and shall be distributed by the Secretary to all members at least three (3) days before the meeting.

Section 5. The following items will constitute the agenda for regular meetings, unless otherwise changed by motion of the Board at any meeting:

- Call to order and attendance
- Approval of minutes
- Citizens' comments
- Financial Report, including approval of bills
- Librarian's report
- Committee reports
- Old business
- New business
- Adjournment

Section 6. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of four (4) members of the Board.

Section 7. Any Board action, to be official, must be approved at an official Board meeting. Actions with respect to the levy of taxes, incurring of debt and expenditure of funds shall require a vote of four (4) members of the Board. All other action must be approved by a majority of the quorum, unless otherwise required by law.

Section 8. The Plymouth District Library Board of Trustees will maintain compliance with the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, at all times.

## ARTICLE VII LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Section 1. The Library Director shall be appointed by the Board and shall be considered the executive officer of the Library.

Section 2. The Library Director shall have sole charge of the administration of the Library under the direction and review of the Board. The Library Director shall be responsible for the care of the building and equipment; for the employment, development and direction of the staff; for the efficiency of the Library's service to the community; for the annual preparation of a budget proposal; for the operation of the Library under the financial conditions set forth in the budget approved by the Board; and for the submission to the Board at its regular April meeting a written annual report of the state of the Library, including the audited financial statements.

Section 3. The Library Director or his/her representative shall attend all meetings of the Board, unless otherwise directed by the Board President.

## ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by a majority vote of all members, provided the amendment was presented in writing at the previous regular meeting.

Adopted by the Plymouth District Library Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on March 15, 2011.

By

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Eric Bacyinski  
Secretary