

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Finance Committee

November 17, 2020

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES FOR A PROPER PUBLIC
PURPOSE**

- WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code 3375.40 states that a Library Board of Trustees has authority to “[e]xpend for library purposes, and in the exercise of the power enumerated in this section, all moneys, whether derived from the county public library fund or otherwise, credited to the free public library under its jurisdiction and generally do all things it considers necessary for the establishment, maintenance, and improvement of the free public library under its jurisdiction;” and
- WHEREAS, On April 18, 2019 the Board of Trustees approved the adoption of a formal policy on diversity, equity and inclusion which provided for the Library to adopt plans and actions to further its goal of positioning the Library as the center of learning in the communities it serves; and
- WHEREAS, As part of its plan to support and embrace diversity in the workforce and the community and to create a safe workplace environment in which employees’ voices can be included, heard, valued, and treated with respect, the Library has created the following Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) for staff: Women’s, LGBTQAI+, Multi-Cultural, African American, People with Disabilities, and Hispanic/Latinx; and
- WHEREAS, The Library would like to expend public funds to support the ERGs in this goal by providing funds to the ERGs for speaker fees, conferences, technology, and supplies; and
- WHEREAS, The use of Library funds to promote this plan requires that the expenditures that the Library makes be for a “proper public purpose”; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Cleveland Public Library Board of Trustees declares the expenditure of funds for speaker fees, conferences, technology, and supplies for the Library’s Employee Resource Groups to be a proper public purpose and authorizes the Library’s Fiscal Officer to expend moneys on occasion for these purposes.