

Starr Library Board of Trustee Meeting

July 27, 2020

Minutes

Trustees Present: George Baker, Shea Dean, Kat Melo, Paul Higgins, Al Ragucci, Lisa Reticker, Karen Unger, Donna Warner, and Director Stephen Cook

Trustees Absent: Ronnie Citron-Fink, David Lavalley, Jill Horn

Friends Representative: Stephen Frost

- I. Meeting called to order by President Al Ragucci at 5:38 P.M. *This meeting was held via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic.*
- II. **Secretary's Report:** Minutes of June 2020 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Karen, George 2nd. Passed unanimously.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Stephen Cook explained that personnel costs in May were higher than expected because there were three rather than two pay periods in May. Motion to accept: Al. Second, Karen.
- IV. **Director's Report:** Stephen Cook talked about his trepidation about reopening to the public after a part-time worker called in sick and got a Covid test. The worker is awaiting results. Stephen will not have employee come back until he has received at least two negative test results. Karen and Kat suggested ways to keep Brooke and Stephen from being together at the library at the same time – “A and B shifts” – so there was less risk of both being exposed to the virus. Karen suggested call forwarding. Al suggested hiring temporary employees to work some extra hours, or hiring new workers to wipe down computers. Stephen talked about talking to Helen and Meryl, the two retirees who do desk work, if they want more hours. Karen offered to send out a posting to Bard students who are here this summer and want a part-time job.
 - a. Stephen Cook also mentioned that a staff member might resign due to having a higher risk spouse, and that he (Stephen) has already started collecting CVs through the Mid-Hudson Library system for that person's possible replacement. Karen offered to circulate the job description at Bard.
 - b. Stephen mentioned that he was invited to participate in the Resiliency Hub project spearheaded by Boatbuilders' Project, Sue Sie and others, but planned to decline because he has too much on his plate. Board members asked Stephen to get more information about it before formally turning down the invitation.
 - c. Stephen also mentioned that Mid-Hudson Libraries also recommended that libraries hold a 414 vote this year to get more funding from taxpayers because the 414 votes that were held in June passed overwhelmingly and that such passage may not be assured in future years. A straw poll was held and most board members were against it.
- V. **Friends Report:** Stephen Frost talked about holding a Friends book sale outdoors, perhaps at the pavilion down by the pool. Stephen Cook agreed to look into asking Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia for permission. Karen suggested partnering with other community organizations like Rhinebeck

Responds and perhaps getting food trucks there. Lisa said she would talk to her husband, who is the Rhinebeck Responds chair, about whether and how RR would be involved.

VI. **Claims and warrants:** Motion to accept: Lisa, 2nd Karen. Passed unanimously.

VII. **Committee Reports:**

- a. **Long Range Planning Committee.** Donna reported that the LRP committee has met twice since the last board meeting. Shea summarized the minutes from the 7/22/20 meeting. Donna showed the board the outline she had created based on state standards, which Al and Shea had agreed to help fill out, with the help of other committees and staff.
- b. **Personnel committee:** Al said that he, Paul and Lisa met to talk about continuing to refine the process of evaluating the director and other staff.
- c. **Building and Grounds Committee:** George said the 32-page Conway report was just made public and that he would send a link to the report to the board. He said that a lot of the report was based on pollinators' needs; that it was driven by "ecological urgency." George felt that the design aspects were uninspired. The much debated parking lot at the entrance was included on the plan. He has written to Sue Sie to see what is to be done with this report's recommendations.

VIII. Motion to adjourn: 7:09P.M. by Karen, 2nd Lisa. Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Monday, August 24, 2020 5:30pm

Submitted by Shea Dean