

Starr Library Board of Trustee Meeting

December 28, 2020

Minutes

Trustees Present: George Baker, David Lavallee, Shea Dean, Al Ragucci, Kat Melo, Donna Warner, Jill Horn, Karen Unger, and Director Stephen Cook

Trustees Absent: Ronnie Citron-Fink, Lisa Reticker, Paul Higgins

Friends Representative: Stephen Frost.

I. Meeting called to order by President Al Ragucci at 5:34 P.M. *This meeting was held via Zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic.*

II. **Secretary's Report:** Minutes of special 12/14/2020 meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Donna, George 2nd. Passed unanimously. Minutes of November meeting reviewed. Motion to accept: Karen. David 2nd. Passed unanimously.

III. **Treasurer's Report:** David Lavallee reported that the library received \$11K in donations in November. He said that ADP payroll service fee has remained the same. He and Stephen Cook agreed to meet with Bill to discuss the liability insurance cost. Karen mentioned that both Rhinebeck Bank and M&T Bank give small grants to community organizations that keep their money in those institutions, and she agreed to talk to Stephen about applying for them.

David reported that we would finish the year under budget, leaving some extra money to pay for one-time expenses in 2021. The 2021 budget would include an extra \$20K salary for the new children's programmer plus a 3% salary increase for all staff. He noted that an extra \$23K would be spent in 2021 on paint, lights and signage (new carpeting will wait until 2022). David said we need to raise \$50K next year (roughly \$45K usually comes from the campaign).

Motion to accept treasurer's report: Karen. Donna 2nd. Passed unanimously.

IV. **Director's Report:**

Stephen said that annual campaign has raised \$46K to date.

V. **Friends Report:** Stephen Frost said there was nothing to report.

VI. **Claims and warrants:** Motion to approve: Jill. Second, Karen. Passed unanimously.

VII. **Committee Reports:**

a. **Long Range Planning Committee.** Donna reported that we are meeting tomorrow with Paul Mays to plan the community meetings in January and February. She also mentioned that

Brookemeade just opened a community center with an auditorium that seats 200 – a new large gathering space that we should be aware of as we plan additions / renovations.

- b. **Buildings and Grounds:** George presented the plan to put up four new signs in Rhinebeck Village guiding people to the library.
- c. **Fundraising Committee:** Karen reported that the finance and fundraising committees are being combined. She also mentioned how Bard applied for a grant to run a bilingual “Big Read” program in 2021 including Bard, Starr and other local libraries. The book will be Sandra Cisneros’ *House on Mango Street*. She said she is putting together a 2021 “fundraising calendar” so we can plan fundraising tasks over the course of the year.
- d. **Nominating Committee:** The board had virtual “meet and greet” with the prospective new board members Martha Gershun and Craig Oleszewski.

IX New Business

- a. **Appointment of New Board Members:** Motion to vote in Martha Gershun as a new trustee to complete the last year of Paul Higgins’ term and to be eligible for two additional three-year terms. Motion to accept: David. Karen second. Passed unanimously.
Motion to vote in Craig Oleszewski to start a three-year term starting in January, and to be eligible for an additional three-year term. Motion to accept: George, second Donna.
- b. **Election of Board Officers for 2021:** Motion to accept board officers to continue as follows: Al Ragucci, President; George Baker, Vice President; David Lavallee, Treasurer; Shea Dean, Secretary. Motion to accept: Karen; second Donna. Passed unanimously.
- c. **2021 budget approval.** Motion to accept: Karen. Second: George. Passed unanimously.

VIII. Motion to adjourn: 7:38 PM. by Al. Motion to accept, Karen; 2nd George. Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Monday, January 25, 2021 5:30pm

Submitted by Shea Dean