

Starr Library Board of Trustee Meeting

June 22, 2020

Minutes

Trustees Present: George Baker, Ronnie Citron-Fink, Shea Dean, Jill Horn, Al Ragucci, Lisa Reticker, Karen Unger, Donna Warner, and Director Stephen Cook

Trustees Absent: David Lavallee, Paul Higgins

Friends Representative (absent): 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. Nominating Committee presented Kathryn Melo as a new trustee to complete Lisa Ransom's one-year term that expires in December, with the option to continue. Motion to accept: George. 2nd Donna. Passed unanimously.
- III. **Secretary's Report:** Minutes of May 2020 meeting reviewed (June meeting date corrected). Motion to accept: Jill, Karen 2nd. Passed unanimously.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report:** No treasurer's report, so approval has been deferred for a month.
- V. **Friends Report:** Stephen Cook reported on behalf of Stephen Frost (absent) to say that the Friends are not going to have a book sale anytime in the near future. Stephen Cook said that he got a donation of 35 boxes of books and have sorted through them for the Friends but that the Friends are running out of space for books given the lack of book sales. Stephen said that Friends have not met in 3-4 months and may have a book sale outside under a tent, if weather cooperates.
- VI. **Director's Report:** Stephen Cook said that the library has reopened and patrons appreciate it. He noted that he needs to get an occupancy rating for the building so that he knows how many people can be allowed inside when the Mid-Hudson Valley moves into Phase 3 reopening. Earlier he noted that A/C is not recommended by health experts, making the library very hot inside for staff. Stephen Cook said that three redbud trees were planted, one in the wrong place, under an existing tree canopy. Meg Crawford of the Rhinebeck Tree Commission told him that she would move it to the correct location.
- VII. **Claims and warrants:** Motion to accept: Donna, 2nd Lisa. Passed unanimously.
- VIII. **Committee Reports:**

Al suggested that the LRP Committee, the Nominating Committee and the Personnel Committee meet before the next meeting.

- a. **Long Range Planning Committee.** Donna confirmed the active members on the committee: Shea, George, Donna, Al, Karen (floating), Stephen and Brooke. Donna suggested that the committee have the first meeting with Paul Mays to figure out where things stand with the expansion / renovation project.
- b. **Nominating committee.** Al suggested that the nominating committee meet before Jill Horn leaves the board in December. They should work to put together a pool of candidates to choose from, and to refine the selection process.

IX. **Old Business**

Stephen proposed doing away with overdue fines. He said charging fines is anachronistic and that the money from fines tends not to add up to much – that fines used to yield \$15K a year, last year it was \$10K, but this year it would only be \$4K (\$7K was predicted pre-Coronavirus). Stephen doesn't like telling patrons that they can't check out books because they have more than \$10 in fines.

Al proposed a motion to suspend charging fines for July so Stephen can come up with a policy proposal on ending overdue fines. He will present his proposal at the next meeting so that we can vote on it. Motion to accept: Karen. 2nd Ronnie. Passed unanimously.

George reported on the Conway School's meeting with the library trustees last week. He said that it was a positive exercise overall. We await the report.

- X. Motion to adjourn: 6:58 P.M. by Karen, 2nd Jill. Passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Monday, July 27, 2020 5:30pm

Submitted by Shea Dean