

STARR LIBRARY 68 WEST MARKET STREET
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
RHINEBECK, NY 12572
MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, December 19, 2024, 5:30 PM

In attendance: Eve Wood, Erin Humbaugh, Jay Burgess, Andrew Schulkind, Jaclyn Savolainen, Laura Charles, Laura Selicaro, Craig Oleszewski.

Absent: David Lavalley, Valarie Jacob, Stephen Frost

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:36 with Eve Wood acting as board president because David

Lavalley's term had ended and he was unable to attend this final meeting of his tenure. There was a brief review of the agenda with no corrections or modifications.

II. Public Comment Period: Mimi Joh-Carnella was present and since she was unable to attend the previous meeting, the board introduced themselves to this new board member. Jim Ruderman was in attendance as well and introduced himself. There was discussion about Mimi's background, goals and interests for her tenure at Starr.

III. Secretary's Report-Minutes from the November meeting were accepted with a motion by Erin seconded by Laura Selicaro, unanimously adopted.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Tax filing paperwork is back from Grady and will be filed soon. Endowment is

at \$1.688M as of the end of November. Rhinebeck Bank balance is at \$127k but more funds are arriving through the Annual Appeal. With checks and funds on hand but waiting deposit the operating balance is around \$154k with about \$90k in anticipated expenses between now and the end of February, so there is enough available until the 414 disbursement. The extraordinary withdrawal from the endowment that was approved in prior months for \$17k has not yet been executed and could still be considered in the case of any shortfall.

V. Director's Report: November was a strong month for attendance, with the election activities being a huge draw, but other programs were also very well attended. Jaclyn featured Rhinebeck at Home as a partner organization with a lot of participation, as well as the local PTSO and the school where there is now a RCSD School library card so that the teachers can check out materials for use in the classroom. Book clubs remain popular with new book clubs being added.

Historic talk about Belle da Costa Greene, JP Morgan's librarian with a field trip to the Morgan Library planned. December 10th

, there were activities at Local History, Story Time, All Abilities

story hour, Lego Hour, Mystery Book Club, Cookbook Club, the Belle da Costa Greene talk and then the Book Club had a party upstairs after hours. This was one particularly full day at Starr, but

interest and usage is increasing. Sinterklaas dioramas are currently on display. Annual Appeal stands at \$67k. All unrestricted donations are at \$78k. Fundraising efforts are commendable.

Janet Mills bequest came in recently at \$50k with another \$20k coming. There was a discussion

concerning the way that we honor donors. Circulation statistics are surpassing prior years.
VI. Friends' Report: The Friends have not met nor had a book sale since the last Trustee's meeting so

there is nothing new for them to report. There was no representative present to speak for the Friends. Starr is more closely tracking the spending that happens from the support of the Friends.

VII. Claims and Warrants-Craig made the motion to accept the Claims and Warrants, Laura Charles

seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Fundraising did not meet but Erin has been preparing for the Capital Campaign by speaking with The Campaign Council and other people who are consultants and otherwise engaged in this type of fundraising. In the new year, once the new members are seated, Erin will formulate a fundraising team.

b. PR: Jay stated that the committee didn't meet this month but that he has some ideas for branding and outreach.

c. B&G didn't meet this month things have been getting fixed as needed without the need for board involvement.

d. Finance Committee did not meet this month.

e. Expansion Committee: Very close, maybe 85% of the way to a final phase of getting the project and budget deliverables with the final project looking to be completed in early 2025.

IX. Correspondence: Many nice notes have been sent along with the annual appeal.

X. Old Business:

a. A slate of new officers had been presented at the November meeting with Al Ragucci nominated

as the Vice President, Valerie staying on as Secretary, Andrew staying on as Treasurer and Eve being nominated as Board President. Laura Charles made the motion to elect the proposed slate

of officers, Craig seconded. All present voted in favor.

b. Unattended Child Policy was introduced in the November, 2025 meeting. There was a discussion

regarding the penalties and proposed actions. Erin moved to adopt the policy, Laura Selicaro seconded. All present voted in favor and the policy was adopted.

c. The proposed calendar was presented for Starr Trustee meetings.

i. There was some discussion regarding placement of the meeting in the third Thursday of the month instead of the fourth. The calendar was adopted as presented with the appropriate configuration of committee meetings being left to the newly composed board once the new year begins.

The Public Session was adjourned at 6:32pm and the Trustees went into an Executive Session to

discuss personnel. The executive session continued until 7:30 at which point the meeting wa