

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 22, 2012

Niskayuna Branch Library

Present: Tina Chericoni Versaci, Cheryl H. Cufari, Rory Fluman, M. Joe Landry, Julie B. McDonnell, Lisa McHugh, Edwin D. Reilly Jr., Camille Siano Enders, Esther M. Swanker, Clifford M. Tepper, Simon Weinstein, Jean Wildgrube, Andrew Kulmatiski

Absent and Excused: Anthony M. Gaddy, Sharon Jordan, Marsha Mortimore

Friends Board: William Leitch

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16 MEEETING

The minutes of the February 16, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Clifford Tepper, seconded by Tina Chericoni Versaci.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Swanker reported. At the January 26, 2012 meeting there was a unanimous vote to change the library board meetings from the fourth to the third Thursday of the month in order for the library board to meet prior to the Friends of the Library board. Due to conflicts with several library board members, the date needs to be changed again. After discussion among trustees, there was a motion by Julie McDonnell to revert back to the fourth Thursday of the month, seconded by Cheryl Cufari and approved with one abstention by Clifford Tepper.

Mrs. Swanker congratulated Cheryl Cufari on her appointment to President of the Mohawk Valley Library System Board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Andrew Kulmatiski reported.

Construction Update:

- On Monday, March 26, HVAC and electrical will begin again. There had been a delay because the steel beams needed to be painted with flame retardant paint
- Furnishings and shelving has been ordered
- Glass work and stairs will begin in April
- Restrooms in McChesney Room and Children's Room are scheduled to be completed in April
- Carpeting for existing building and addition will begin in May
- Completion of project is scheduled for June 22, 2012

Since construction is scheduled for the end of June, and most of the project completed by the end of July, Mr. Kulmatiski suggested that the reception for donors be held in July. The reception committee will meet and a date will be selected before the next board meeting in April.

Enclosed in trustee packets is an agreement between the Schenectady County Public Library and the MVLS/SALS Joint Automation Project. All electronic access comes through the MVLS/SALS Joint Automation Project. The contract fee is based on circulation and the size of our collection. It provides a shared patron database with libraries in eight counties, technical support, upgrades on network equipment and WIFI, and every computer we purchase comes with maintenance for five years. There has been no increase in cost for three years; there is only a slight increase for this year. Mr. Kulmatiski asked the trustees to review the contract. It was decided that a vote will take place at the April board meeting.

Mr. Kulmatiski reported that Serena Butch and Mary Ann Warner attended the PLA Conference t held in Philadelphia March 13-17, 2012.

Serena Butch reported. March is family reading month. Families can pick up a reading log at any branch. The goal is to read together every day, all month, record the books they've read and indicate the days read. They can turn it in with either 25 books or 25 days by April 2 and receive a large Dr. Seuss cling poster.

Ms. Butch attended PLA in Philadelphia. She attended several conferences but highlighted the following three:

- Leaders as Readers – facilitated by three library directors (Saratoga, Loudonville and Saratoga Springs)
- Sustainable is the New Strategic – libraries not equipped with enough staff – staff and budget changes
- Library Trustee Orientation Program – the role of the trustee: advocacy

Ms. Butch would like to report next month on a literacy program – *Every Child Ready to Read Literacy Model*.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Karen Bradley commended our security staff with special thanks to Tony Irvin, who caught a patron viewing child pornography this past week. The patron has been banned permanently from the library. Ms. Bradley thanked the county for providing security coverage that includes evening and weekend hours.

Ms. Bradley reported that staff is concerned; as employees leave, no one is hired to replace them.

Alice Ozma, the author of [The Reading Promise: My Father and the Books We Shared](#), will make a visit to the central library on Saturday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m. in the McChesney Room. Ms. Bradley invited trustees to attend.

John Karl reported. Public libraries are critical especially when schools are cutting back and libraries are cut out of funding. The trustees must be advocates for the public library.

John Karl and Rita Moore are co-chairs of the membership committee of the Friends of the Library. He urged trustees to become members. Mr. Karl acknowledged that Rita Moore is a very active member of the Friends and takes on many duties.

The Whitney Book Corner will celebrate its 10th anniversary on May 3, 2012 from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. There are many activities planned in April leading up to the event and on the day of the open house.

Mr. Karl suggested library trustee training a year ago. He also suggested that the library trustees meet with library employees at least once a year in order for employees to voice their concerns.

Mr. Karl invited library trustees to the Friends of Library board meeting on Tuesday, March 27, at the central library.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Bill Leitch reported. The June 9 literary trip to the home of Emily Dickinson and the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art is sold out. Tickets for Memphis at Proctor's are also sold out.

The Friends annual dinner meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 10 at 5:00 p.m. at Schenectady County Community College Van Curler Room. Friends who have volunteered at the Whitney Book Corner will be recognized since it's the 10th anniversary of the bookstore.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Julie McDonnell reported. The donor reception committee will meet and they will pick a date for the reception.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on
Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
The meeting will be held at the Central Library