

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

April 26, 2012

Central Library

Present: Tina Chericoni Versaci, Cheryl H. Cufari, Rory Fluman, Anthony M. Gaddy, Sharon Jordan, M. Joe Landry, Julie B. McDonnell, Lisa McHugh, Marsha Mortimore, Edwin D. Reilly Jr., Camille Siano Enders, Clifford M. Tepper, Jean Wildgrube, Andrew Kulmatiski

Absent and Excused: Esther M. Swanker, Simon Weinstein

Friends Board: William Leitch

Guests: Serena Butch, Karen Bradley, John Karl, Gail Karl, Karen Johnson

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 22 MEETING

The minutes of the March 22, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Clifford Tepper, seconded by Jean Wildgrube.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Cheryl Cufari reported for Esther Swanker who was not in attendance. Ms. Cufari announced that Eric Trahan is the new executive director of MVLS. Mr. Trahan has been the director of the Canajoharie Library and Art Gallery in Canajoharie, New York, a member of MVLS since 1992.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Andrew Kulmatiski reported. The state report requires that library board members have on file with the Schenectady County Clerk a signed *Library Board Oath*. Once all fifteen members sign the oath, the documents will be forwarded to the county clerk's office and Mr. Kulmatiski will submit the state report.

The Finance Committee will need to convene before the May library board meeting to prepare the 2013 budget. After approval from the board, the budget will be presented to the county manager.

Building Update

- Restrooms in McChesney Room have been completed-they have been expanded, made handicap accessible and are brighter
- Tile work in McChesney Room, lobby and in front of circ desk has been completed
- McChesney is open for library events only (rug needs to be replaced)
- Elevator will be installed within the next few weeks
- Carpeting in addition will begin soon/then shelving and furnishings
- Carpeting in existing building will begin after addition

There is a new cycle of New York State Construction grants, under the sponsorship of MVLS. Funding would be split between the state (75%) and the county (25%). The board would decide what projects would be included. The building committee will reconvene but the board would have final decision on the project.

Mr. Kulmatiski asked for a motion to approve the MVLS/SALS Joint Automation Project contract that was presented at the March meeting. There was a motion to approve the contract by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Camille Siano Enders and approved unanimously.

The library had eleven staff members leave in 2011. These positions were both full-time and part-time. No hiring was done in 2011. We now have approval from the county manager to hire the following:

- 1 part-time substitute clerk
- 1 part-time regularly scheduled clerk
- 1 part-time library assistant
- 3 student workers

Serena Butch reported on *“Every Child Ready to Read.”* All five children’s librarians use the same method with Story Hour programs at the library. The method is from the American Library Association *“Every Child Ready to Read.”* It focuses on educating parents and caregivers as the child’s first teacher. The new ALA training is about getting children “ready to read”:

- Talking with children
- Singing
- Reading together
- Writing
- Playing

The library is very committed to early literacy and it will be evident when the new space is completed. The new children’s wing will include updated technology with interactive play stations and iPads.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Treasurer’s Report

Tina Versaci reported. There is a copy of the treasurer’s report in trustee packets. Ms. Chericoni Versaci received a notice on one of the trustee accounts. The account, from the Phyllis Bornt bequest, is valued at \$705,000. The bank requires collateral for anything over \$250,000 since only \$250,000 is insurable. There is an option to move it into a non-interest account. Ms. Chericoni Versaci asked for a motion to give her permission to move the funds into appropriate accounts. A motion was made by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Sharon Jordan and approved unanimously.

Reception Committee

Julie McDonnell reported. The committee met on April 26 and the *“major donor”* reception will be held on July 12. Guests will include large donors, Trustees, Friends, Legislators and county officials. The plans are still underway, and Ms. McDonnell will keep trustees updated.

Bornt Bequest

Tina Versaci reported that a meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 2 to begin discussion on how funds will be spent.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Bill Leitch reported. Chris Witkowski started a website for the Friends – the website is friendsofscpl.org. The Whitney Book Corner will celebrate their 10th year anniversary with an open house on May 3. The book sale will be held on Saturday, May 5 from 9-4 and the bag sale on Sunday, May 6 from 1-3. The volunteer picnic will be held on Friday, June 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the River Road Park in Niskayuna.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Gail Karl, manager of the Whitney Book Corner spoke. The Whitney Book Corner will hold an open house on May 3 from 10-7 to celebrate the 10th anniversary. The Friends received a proclamation from Mayor McCarthy citing May 3 as Whitney Book Corner Day. Much advertising has been done, including a wonderful article in the magazine, *Exploring Downtown Schenectady*. The book store participates in the “return the favor,” program for veterans. Veterans will receive 50% off their purchases at the Whitney Book Store.

Rita Moore, co-chair of the membership committee of the Friend of the Library spoke. The membership program is being revised. Members will now receive a membership card with an expiration date which entitles them to discounts on Friends trips. The Friends would like to work with the business community to develop community partners. These businesses would get publicity by being listed on the Friends website and would offer a discount with a membership.

John Karl, Friends board, spoke. Mr. Karl asked that someone from the trustees make a motion to approve two sums of money. The first is to cover 50% of expenses for the volunteer picnic and the second is to cover 50% of the cost of a new video camera. The video camera is used to record library and Friends programs and the current one is an outdated analog recorder. Mr. Karl will ask the Friends to provide the additional 50% for the video camera at the next board meeting on May 22.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a motion to approve funding 50% of the volunteer picnic by Cheryl Cufari, seconded by Julie McDonnell and approved unanimously.

Mr. Kulmatiski asked that a committee be formed to look into purchasing a new video camera. Volunteers for the committee will be Joe Landry, Marsha Mortimore, and Andy Kulmatiski.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on
Thursday, May 24, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Central Library