

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
July 23, 2015
Central Library

PRESENT: Cheryl Cufari, Camille Siano Enders, Randy Fine, Anthony Gaddy, Cori Hoffman, Sharon Jordan, Julie McDonnell, Jamaica Miles, Marsha Mortimore, Carmel Patrick, Donna Phillips, Edwin D. Reilly Jr., Karen Bradley, Serena Butch, Janice Martin-recorder

ABSENT AND

EXCUSED: M. Joe Landry, William Levering, Tina Chericoni Versaci

Cheryl Cufari called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Cheryl Cufari reported that Mary Barbagelata, Secretary of the Friends of the Library and substitute clerk at the Schenectady County Public Library, passed away today. She asked for a moment of silence in memory of Mary.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25 MEETING

The minutes of the June 25, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Carmel Patrick, seconded by Camille Siano Enders and approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Cheryl Cufari asked Jamaica Miles to report on a program at Girls, Inc. Jamaica reported that on July 30th, Girls, Inc. will host a Stop the Violence Community Forum. Every family will receive a voucher for free school supplies. She invited Karen Bradley to attend to distribute information on the Bornt Branch Library and Literacy Center. Child care will provided for families attending.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Karen Bradley highlighted three events that took place at the library in July.

- July 7 – NYSCA Book Discussion: Still Life with Bread Crumbs, author Anna Quindlen
- July 9 – Pulitzer Prize winning Author Marilyn Robinson at the SCCC B. Taylor Auditorium – Novels include *Lila* and *Gilead*
- July 11 – Electric City Comic Con – over 1,400 people attended this event at the Central Library

The next author event will be held on August 12 in the McChesney Room.

- Letty Cottin Pogrebin – author of *Single Jewish Male Seeking Soul Mate*

We received a letter from Senator Hugh Farley informing us that we will be receiving a \$13,500 bullet aid grant.

On a recommendation from finance commissioner, Debbie Mancini, Karen sent a memo to Kathy Rooney indicating that the trustees authorized the submission of a grant to Mohawk Valley Library System to support the installation of the Meraki Wireless System for our branch libraries and for an Adult Literacy Grant for the new Phyllis Bornt Branch Library and Literacy Center. A copy of the memo is enclosed in trustee packets. Karen will attend the August 3 committee meeting of the legislature.

Security camera installation has been completed at branches.

The final ten percent, \$11,132, from the New York State Construction Grant for the completion of the sidewalk renovation has been received.

Karen reported that Jan Martin received a thank you letter from Superintendent Laurence Spring. They held several professional development days in the McChesney Room earlier in the year. They were very grateful for the free accommodations, table set-ups, parking arrangements, room arrangements and clean up from our library and staff.

A day-long orientation for the AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer will be on Wednesday, August 5. She will begin work on Monday, August 10.

A series of community meetings will begin in August. The public will be able to offer their input at the beginning stages of the construction of the new literacy center.

Serena Butch gave a brief rundown of the multiple children's programs that is being held every day at one or more of the nine branch libraries.

- miSci Chemistry Camps
- Superheroes of Science
- Puppet Shows
- Magic Shows
- Dance Programs
- Music Programs

Twenty teens are currently attending the Teen Writing Camp this week at the central library. The program runs for six hours a day with the culmination on Friday, July 24.

Serena reported that we have an opportunity for a photo op with Senator Hugh Farley either at the Central or Niskayuna Library.

Karen Bradley and Serena Butch have met with our library consultants over the last several months to look at several initiatives for inclusion in the grant to The Schenectady Foundation:

- Parent Child Home Program – provides two years of twice-weekly 30 minute visits to families with children between the ages of 16 months and 4 years who are challenged by poverty, isolation, limited educational opportunities, language and literacy barriers, and other obstacles to healthy development and educational success
- “Family Place Library” for the Bornt Branch Library and Literacy Center – Expanding the traditional role of children's services, Family Place builds on the knowledge that good health, early learning, parental involvement and supportive communities play a critical role in young children's growth and development. The library's environment is designed to be welcoming and appropriate for children beginning at birth; connect parents with resource, programs and services offered at the library and other family service agencies; and reach out to non-traditional library users. This creates the network families need to nurture their children's development during the critical first years of life and helps ensure all children enter school ready and able to learn. We would like to apply to become a “Family Place Library,” which would require Serena Butch and Kaela Wallman to attend a multi-day training. East Greenbush and Voorheesville are two libraries that are “Family Place Libraries”

Our Americorps VISTA volunteer will help organize our books into a “Picture Book City.” A collection of picture books and age-appropriate non-fiction arranged in ‘neighborhoods’ by subject. Color coded labels make it easy to identify books in the same neighborhood. A request to the finance committee to approve our consultants to write a grant for this will be forthcoming.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

No report.

BRANCH REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

Donna Phillips reported that the next meeting will be held on September 9 at 5:00 p.m.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Sharon Jordan reported. A building committee report is enclosed in trustee packets. She highlighted the following:

- Construction has started on the site
- Sharon Jordan and Karen Bradley have been attending construction meetings
- Completion of the Literacy Center will be in December; up and running in the first quarter of 2016
- Family Dollar project was approved; it will be a good partnership.
- No bids were received on the Quaker Street Library repairs – the County is re-bidding it
- Glenville Library is being readied for estimates from contractors
- Niskayuna repairs will be done also

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

Julie McDonnell reported. She made a motion to approve Resolution 1 – 7/23/15 – Approval of SCPL Board of Trustees Expenditures. The motion was seconded by Carmel Patrick and approved unanimously.

The summary of trustee fund balances as of June 30, 2015 was included in trustee packets. A motion to approve the treasurer’s report was made by Camille Siano Enders, seconded by Marsha Mortimore and approved unanimously.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tony Gaddy reported. The trustees met with the Friends on July 7. They will work unitedly in their fundraising efforts. Discussion ensued.

Karen Bradley reported that the AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer’s salary for 2015 will come out of the professional services budget (provided funds are available). The \$11,500 for this position is included in the board approved 2016 budget proposal under professional services. Discussion ensued.

Karen Bradley has been working with MVLS on several grant opportunities, which involves an incredible amount of time and attention.

Karen Bradley will be providing suggestions for possible funding from the Friends for necessities for the Bornt Branch Library and Literacy Center. She will check with John Karl about the possibility of proposing this at their August 25 board meeting.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

No report.

POLICY COMMITTEE

No report.

SECURITY COMMITTEE

Camille Siano Enders reported. The security committee met on July 6. Discussion included opening and closing procedures and library parking lot. The next meeting will be held on August 24 at 8:30 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Karen Bradley presented Resolution 2 – Approval of the MVLS Central Library Plan of Service 5-year Plan. As the Central Library for the Mohawk Valley Library System, the Central Library will provide the following services to its member libraries:

- Collection Development
- Professional Development
- Information Services
- Educational and Cultural Programming
- Communication and Marketing – consultation on a limited basis
- Evaluation of Central Library Service Plan

Cheryl Cufari asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2 – 7/23/15 - Approval of CLDA 5-year Plan. A motion was made by Sharon Jordan, seconded by Anthony Gaddy and approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Central Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on a motion by Marsha Mortimore, seconded by Carmel Patrick and approved unanimously.