

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

September 22, 2011

Niskayuna Branch Library

Present: Rory Fluman, Anthony M. Gaddy, M. Joe Landry, Lisa McHugh, Edwin D. Reilly Jr., Camille Siano Enders, Esther M. Swanker, Clifford M. Tepper
Simon Weinstein, Jean Wildgrube, Andrew Kulmatiski

Absent and Excused: Cheryl H. Cufari, Sharon Jordan, Julie B. McDonnell, Marsha Mortimore

Absent: Tina Chericoni Versaci

Friends Board: William Leitch

Guests: Karen Bradley

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 23 MEETING

The minutes of the June 23, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by Simon Weinstein, seconded by Joe Landry.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Esther Swanker asked the board to review and approve the 2011 Banned Books Week Proclamation by the American Library Association. Banned Books Week is celebrated September 24-October 1, 2011. There was a motion by Clifford Tepper, seconded by Simon Weinstein and approved unanimously.

Esther Swanker and new board member Sharon Jordan visited all nine branches recently. Ms. Jordan's report will be postponed until next month since she was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to illness. Mrs. Swanker extended an invitation to any trustee interested in visiting the branches.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Andrew Kulmatiski reported. Over the past five years the library has received \$1,343,000 in New York State Construction Grants. These funds have mainly been used on the central library.

Mr. Kulmatiski asked for a motion to approve a New York State Construction Grant for \$357,000. This grant will be matched with county funds. The grant will be used for shelving and furnishings in the new children's room. The grant will also be used for shelving that is lower and more accessible for new and popular fiction. It will also be used to update our circulation

system with RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) which would put a chip in every item that we circulate. Patrons will be able to check out books by themselves. RFID is also used for inventory control. There was a motion by Jean Wildgrube, seconded by Anthony Gaddy and approved unanimously.

UPDATE – TIMELINE FOR CONSTRUCTION: Mr. Kulmatiski announced a tentative date of Thursday, September 29 for delivery of seven pre-cast concrete columns for the addition. The columns will be lifted with a crane and placed on fittings on top of foundation walls. Once we confirm this date, trustees will be notified – this will be a very exciting event to watch. The columns weigh 39,000 lbs. The goal is to get the structure enclosed by the end of December. The public restrooms are currently gutted. When those restrooms are finished, work will begin on the McChesney Room restrooms. New carpeting and the elevator will be done in January.

The trustees approved the 2012 budget at the May 2011 meeting and it was submitted to the county manager. It was a flat budget with a 1.5% increase for library materials. Two positions were eliminated: (1) librarian and (1) senior library clerk. Four positions are currently vacant: (1) Assistant Director, (2) Librarians and (1) Library Assistant.

Revenue has gone down by \$20,000. Mr. Kulmatiski asked the board to review the “area library fines” sheet. Our fines are very close with Albany Public Library and if Mr. Kulmatiski were to make a recommendation, he would suggest raising adult fines to \$.25 day. After discussion among trustees regarding increasing fines and printing fees there was a motion by Camille Siano Enders to increase adult fines to \$.25 a day and increase printing costs to \$.20 a page for black and white and \$.50 a day for color starting November 1, 2011. The motion was seconded by Ed Reilly and approved unanimously.

Lois Miller, library assistant at the Woodlawn Branch Library will retire on October 8, 2011. Rose DiCerbo, library assistant at the Scotia Branch Library will retire on September 30, 2011. A Request to Fill was submitted for both positions. Mr. Kulmatiski received authorization to hire an assistant director and will post the position within a month. He hopes to backfill when the position is filled.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Bill Leitch reported. The fall book sale will be held on Saturday, October 1 from 9:00-4:00 and Sunday from 1:00-3:00. The Friends make approximately \$20,000 from each book sale.

The fall trip to Hildene, the Lincoln Family Home went very well.

If anyone is interested in volunteering at the book sale on October 1 and 2 please contact Bill Leitch.

BRANCH REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

Jean Wildgrube reported. The committee met on Wednesday, September 14. Woodlawn Branch Library needs a *Book Return*. The cost is around \$5,000. Mr. Kulmatiski is hoping to receive partial payment through a grant.

Mr. Leitch asked about the Phyllis Bornt estate. Funds from her estate are designated for improvements to the branches. A committee will be formed; several trustees volunteered at the June meeting.

Ed Reilly asked about the By-Laws Committee report. Mr. Landry explained that the committee will have one more meeting and they will report in October.

NEW BUSINESS

Jean Wildgrube reported that two MVLS libraries, Schoharie and Middleburg, are recovering from floods. Financial donations and gift cards are needed. They are not ready to receive book donations at this time. Mrs. Wildgrube also reported that Carol Clingan, MVLS Director, is retiring.

Camille Siano Enders asked if the trustees could make a financial donation. Mr. Kulmatiski and Mrs. Swanker suggested a committee be formed to look into reaching out for support for these libraries. Joe Landry, Camille Siano Enders, Simon Weinstein and Bill Leitch will follow-up.

Mr. Leitch asked about electronic books. Mr. Kulmatiski reported that there is a demand for electronic books, but there is only one vendor, Overdrive, and the cost is very high.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Karen Bradley thanked the board for approving the proclamation for Banned Books Week. The library will have a Banned Books event this Sunday, September 25 at 2:00 p.m. in the McChesney Room at the central library. Ms. Bradley invited the trustees to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on
Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Central Library