

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The regular monthly meeting of the Schenectady County Public Library Trustees was held on Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.

PRESENT: Madelyn Thorne, President; Brenda Schworm, Vice President; David Fronk; Sharon Jordan; Steve McCutcheon; Julie McDonnell; Jude McQueen; Tina Chericoni Versaci

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Carmel Patrick; Bernice Rivera; Angela Tatem

UNEXCUSED: Justin Chaires

STAFF: Beth DeMidio, Director of Operations; Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director; Michelle Dannenhoffer-Cau, Public Services Manager; Doug Bixler, Support Services Manager; Jan Martin, Board Clerk

GUESTS: Rory Fluman, Schenectady County Manger; Gary Hughes, Schenectady County Legislature Chair; Michelle Ostrelch, Schenectady County Legislature-Vice Chair, Education & Libraries; Charlene Roman, President, Friends of the Library

President Madelyn Thorne called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Gifford – Scotia, New York. She reported that Jean Frisbee passed away. Jean was instrumental behind the Quaker Street Library. She additionally voiced her concerns about SCPL withdrawing from JA and potentially from MVLS.

Wade Abbott – Rotterdam, New York. He spoke as a resident of Rotterdam and Communication Specialist for MVLS. He spoke about the ongoing discussions regarding SCPL leaving the JA System and exploring partnership with UHLS.

Robin Pelton – Staff member at SCPL. She spoke on behalf of staff and highlighted issues with staffing and programming.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Tina Chericoni Versaci. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF REVISED POLICY 6.1 LIBRARY CARDS

Steve McCutcheon made a motion to revise Policy 6.1 Library Cards, seconded by Tina Chericoni Versaci. Revision is as follows: Library cards may be issued at no cost to individuals who reside or own property within Schenectady County or the service areas of the Mohawk Valley, Southern Adirondack or Upper Hudson Library Systems. Discussion ensued. Motion passed.

UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Charity Thorne previously sent out an update to trustees after the UHLS Board meeting in July. Open discussion followed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Madelyn Thorne is requesting to have an August meeting. Date TBA.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Trustees reviewed the written report by Executive Director Charity Thorne. She also highlighted that our website now has a *Suggest to Purchase* form, we are working on an *ILL Form* and the *Title Request* feature is turned back on for Hoopla. Also, with the hours and staffing changes, we will have four full-time Youth Services staff at the Karen B. Johnson Library with one focusing on teen services.

Beth DeMidio reviewed the Capital Project Budget Requests submitted for 2025.

BUILDING – Written report included in board packet.

FINANCE – No report.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY – No report.

PLANNING – No report.

POLICY – No report.

MVLS REPRESENTATIVE – No report.

NEW BUSINESS

Julie McDonnell acknowledged that the public comments that have been voiced at the board meetings over the past several months have been heard.

Madelyn Thorne asked for a motion to enter into executive session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss matters leading to the discipline of a particular person. Motion made by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Tina Chericoni Versaci.

The executive session ended at 8:47 p.m. and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.