

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
November 9, 2023

PRESENT: Cheryl Cufari, Randy Fine, David Fronk, Sharon Jordan, Steve McCutcheon, Carmel Patrick, Bernice Rivera, Brenda Schworm, Madelyn Thorne, Tina Chericoni Versaci, Christine Witkowski

ABSENT AND
EXCUSED: Julie McDonnell, Angela Tatem

REMOTE: Jude McQueen

Ex-Officio: Charity Thorne, Executive Director of Library System, Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director; Beth DeMidio, Assistant Library Director of Operations; Michelle Ostreich, Schenectady County Legislature, Vice-Chair Education & Libraries

GUESTS: Kaela Wallman, Mary Ann Warner, Christine Filippelli, Robin Pelton

Tina Chericoni Versaci called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Robin Pelton commented on staff concerns regarding morale, scheduling, outreach and proposed operating hours.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for July 27, 2023
- b. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for September 28, 2023
- c. Approval of Expenditures – Resolution 1

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Sharon Jordan, seconded by Bernice Rivera. Motion passed.

Resolution 2 – Approval – Summary – Long Range Plan 2020-2023. Motion to approve by Cheryl Cufari, seconded by Sharon Jordan. Motion passed. Discussion of Family Place Library, Goal 4 in the plan.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Appointment of Nominating Committee; Chaired by David Fronk.
- Continuing education hours required by New York State.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Trustees reviewed the written report submitted by Charity Thorne. Discussion ensued.
- Schenectady County Information Technology Department will be taking over the library's IT needs from the Joint Automation Project; SCPL will continue to look to Joint Automation for Polaris Integrated Library System support. Versaci asked if JA membership fees would change once they are no longer providing IT support and Thorne said no, JA had previously indicated having dedicated IT support of our own would not change what they charge us.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

- Steve McCutcheon went to the Friends meeting. Booksale was successful although there is some concern regarding safety and book dealer/vendors interaction with the public. Could deals be provided with some sort of special event? Also, a bit of furniture was proposed to contain a working jigsaw puzzle.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

- Met before the Board meeting, reviewing capital projects for 2024.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – None.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – None.

POLICY

- Need to set up meeting date.

MVLS REPRESENTATIVE

- Haileab Samuel continues to represent Schenectady County.

NEW BUSINESS

- Phone call from Lois Miller on November 19, former library trustee Marsha Mortimore will be honored for community works. Invitation is extended to library trustees.
- Randy Fine wants to have a short conversation in response to the public comments from Robin Pelton. Tina Chericoni Versaci takes comments under advisement.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 pm on a motion by Bernice Rivera, seconded by Carmel Patrick. All in favor.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.