

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The regular monthly meeting of the Schenectady County Public Library Trustees was held on Thursday, October 24, 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; Carmel Patrick, Treasurer; Angela Tatem, Secretary; Justin Chaires; David Fronk; Julie McDonnell; Jude McQueen;
ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Sharon Jordan; Steve McCutcheon; Bernice Rivera; Tina Chericoni Versaci
STAFF: Beth DeMidio, Director of Operations; Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director
GUESTS: Shirley DeBono, First Vice-President, Friends of the Library; Tina Sciocchetti, Nixon Peabody Law Firm

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Gifford-Scotia, NY – Asked about the cost of Polaris one-time fee and future maintenance fees. Questioned purchasing duplicate items vs. borrowing. Asked where funds are coming from and how it affects the budget. Wondered if these questions will be answered in the coming months.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Thanks, and congratulations to the Friends of the Library on recent fundraising events.
- Madelyn Thorne reported that she is not advocating leaving MVLS. Trustees decision was to improve IT services, not to cut off access.
- Introduction to Tina Sciocchetti, an attorney from the Nixon Peabody Law Firm. She has been asked to assist with some legal questions.

Chaires motioned to engage the services of Tina Sciocchetti and Nixon Peabody, McQueen seconded. Patrick motioned to approve expenditure of up to \$30,000 if needed for legal services, Chaires seconded. Discussion ensued. Motions passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Launch event and Library Card Sign-up held last month were both very successful.
- Thank you to the Friends of the Library for supporting innovative updates, particularly for funding Scan EZ computer stations to be installed in November.
- IT - Weekly meetings with Polaris Project Manager are being held.
- County IT has worked to establish a parallel network for direct transfer of hardware off of the JA network.
- Staff are being issued scpl.org Office 365 accounts.
- JA exit will be completed by January 1, 2025.
- JA fees are about \$130,00 per year; Polaris annual cost is about \$50,000.

Construction Updates – Beth DeMidio

- Quaker Street Branch renovation should be finished this week.
- Glenville and Woodlawn fire panel upgrades should be finished shortly.

- Second floor renovations at the Karen B. Johnson Library are underway.
- Elevator replacement at the Karen B. Johnson Library is anticipated in 2025.

Legal Counsel for Board of Trustees – Tina Sciocchetti, Nixon Peabody Law Firm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Library.