

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The regular monthly meeting of the Schenectady County Public Library Trustees was held on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.

PRESENT: Madelyn Thorne, President; David Fronk; Steve McCutcheon; Julie McDonnell; Bernice Rivera; Tina Chericoni Versaci

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Justin Chaires; Jude McQueen; Carmel Patrick, Brenda Schworm; Angela Tatem

STAFF: Beth DeMidio, Director of Operations; Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director; Doug Bixler, Support Services Manager; Janice Martin, Board Clerk

GUESTS: Charlene Roman, President, Friends of the Library; Jessica McDonald, Assistant Treasurer, Friends of the Library; Diane Wilkinson, Friends of the Library

President Madelyn Thorne called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m. and announced that Sharon Jordan has resigned from the Library Board of Trustees.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Gifford/Scotia NY – She is concerned about the lack of information going out to staff and public, in particular to the unavailability of the website during the transition to the new website on November 14, 2024.

David Gosda/Niskayuna, NY-He could not find any information from the Board of Trustees minutes, from February 29, 2024 to present about the contract between the County Library and Clarivate.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Bernice Rivera, seconded by Steve McCutcheon. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Trustees should let Madelyn Thorne know their committee interests for 2025. Will need a strategic plan for 2025.
- Survey will be sent out regarding day/time for library board of trustee meetings in 2025.
- All trustees will be given a scpl.org email address.
- Reminder to trustees to complete 2 hours of mandatory yearly training.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Trustees reviewed the written report by Executive Director Charity Thorne.

- Charity Thorne announced that the soft launch of the new website took place overnight on November 14, 2024.

Doug Bixler reviewed the new website as it was displayed on screen for the trustees. He highlighted the following:

- Search from Home Page – New option to search both catalog and website
- Banner on top-upcoming closings, news, etc.
- 4 most used items highlighted on top-Mobile Printing/Get a Card/Reserve a Room/Events Calendar

- Translation option
- ADA Accessibility
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Director's report (continued)

Hiring – There are only four vacant positions at the library; this is the fewest number of vacancies since pre-pandemic.

Starting on Tuesday, November 12, we began rolling out the new public computer management/print management/scan/fax/copying services-EZ SCAN. The new equipment was paid for by the Friends of the Library. Installation at the branches is forthcoming. Trustees are welcome to preview the equipment after the meeting.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Charlene Roman thanked all staff and volunteers who participated in Harry Pottery Day on October 19, 2024. It was a very successful event.

BUILDING COMMITTEE – Beth DeMidio reported on the following and photos were displayed on screen:

- Glenville - landscaping project was completed.
- Quaker Street – exterior renovation and pavement of parking lot completed.
- KBJ – renovation of staff breakroom; scheduled completion December 2024. Staff restrooms will follow. Looking into furniture refreshing, furniture for patrons.
- Bornt – looking into furniture refreshing for patrons.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – None.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – None.

POLICY COMMITTEE – None.

NEW BUSINESS

David Fronk acknowledged National Friends of the Library Week and thanked the Friends of the Library for their incredible dedication.

Steve McCutcheon reported that the Friends of the Library Winter Book Sale will be held February 1 and 2, 2024. They are always looking for volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m. on a motion by Tina Versaci, seconded by Bernice Rivera.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Library.