

**Skaneateles Library Association
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 8, 2017**

Present: Scott Elia, President; David Graham, Vice-President; Andrew Hagen, Treasurer; Paula Conan; Sharon O’Connell; Todd Marshall; Geralyn Huba; Michael Cirincione; Peg Whitehouse; Laurie Spencer; Nickie Marquis, Library Director.

Absent: Danette Davis, Secretary; David Lee; Bob Lotkowictz

President Elia called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Approval of the July 18th, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Minutes were approved

Approval of the July 18th, 2018 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved

Announcements:

Brew for the Books – sponsored by Sherwood Inn; D. Graham suggested we send a note of thanks to Bill Eberhardt

Dave Graham nominated for Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce

Public Comment Period: There were four members of the public present. There were positive comments about the book sale.

Library Director’s Report:

The monthly report was emailed previously. President Elia noted the increase in number of items downloaded.

Director Marquis has purchased new computers for staff and patrons. New printers and a phone system are also on the list with a goal of sixty days for the phones. IT people are being interviewed and would be expected to be able to assist on the phone system.

Huff and Puff performance by Merry-Go-Round Theater was successful with close to 80 spectators in attendance.

Directors Insurance has been put in place effective August 1st, 2017. Discussed increasing coverage from \$1 million currently to \$3 million. Director Cirincione noted that the policy appears to have eroding limits. Directors Cirincione and Hagen will meet with Delmonico Insurance to determine best course of action.

Short Film Festival will be held September 28th – October 8th.

Book Sale:

Trustee Conan reported that the recent book sale did very well, particularly with fewer books, the sale being held on a different weekend than in past years and a reduced interest in paying for books. The sale was much better organized this year particularly in fiction. The net proceeds were \$19,600.

Trustee Whitehouse thanked the Conans for their donation. Trustee Spencer voiced concern about volunteer burnout.

A potential big change for the book sale is being considered. Mayor Hubbard spoke to President Elia and offered the idea of a permanent location in the Village Hall apparatus bays. The village has determined the bays to be surplus. Trustees Conan and Lee met with Hubbard after the book sale. The village would like a proposal.

Trustee Conan and Allison Rutter visited the Ithaca book sale to learn about how theirs works. It is a much bigger sale with 200+ volunteers and making \$500,000. They have a 70+ year history. Conan would like to put together a team to evaluate short, medium and long term plan. Please let her know if you are interested.

One for the Books:

Invitations have been sent. Great selection of books – thanks to Trustee O’Connell and her committee. The goal is 98-102 tickets sold. It is a great event but very time consuming to organize. Trustee Conan will not run the event again.

Barrow:

Regina Middleton ran the management committee meeting.

- Success of partnership with Finger Lakes Land Trust - hosted thank you to major contributors to Finger Lakes Land trust on back lawn of SLA.
- Trustee Lee looking for recommendation on bids for roof work; also looking at SLA responsibilities.
- Summer docent for the last three years, Nick Smolenski, graduates this Fall.
- Trustee Spencer asked about succession plan – Jessica Millman is meeting with LeMoyne College Museum Studies program to write a job description, determine salary, etc.
 - Will look at seniors at LeMoyne
 - No one currently on the management committee is interested in taking the role
 - Not interested in advertising the opening

Board Openings:

A correction was to the process of nomination as it was described at the July meeting. The correct process is 1) Nominate in January, 2) Election in February and 3) Appointment in March.

Trustee Graham said the board needs representation from trustees with background in Fund Development/Advancement, Human Resources, Public Relations and additional representation in Finance/Accounting.

There are two open positions out of fifteen plus four trustees (Trustees O’Connell, Hagen, Huba, and Davis) have terms expiring. Need to review the term limits formula, new process for nominations to broaden the field of candidates, and consider a by-law change if necessary. Trustee Conan suggested posting open board positions on the website or in an article or letter to the editor in the Skaneateles Press. President Elia suggested considering an incremental change in approach.

Allyn Foundation Letter:

A plan needs to be submitted for use of remaining funds. Plan may include continued investigation of a new site, and revenue generating educational or cultural programming held outside the library. A

deadline to use the funds of 12/1/2017 has been set. Trustee Spencer asked what happens if we are pursuing options at that point. Also Trustee Conan asked why there is a change from the Allyn Foundation. President Elia said he did not feel comfortable responding in public to this concern but will be happy to address individually with board members. Trustees Conan and Spencer objected. Director Marquis clarified that the reapplication process is typical. President Elia and Director Marquis will be working on a proposal and requested Trustee Hagen to help and any others who may be interested.

Budget for 2017-18:

Director Marquis distributed a preliminary budget to review prior to the next meeting with a few open items:

- IT services contract not finalized yet
- Repair & maintenance not finalized yet
- There is interest in purchasing Collection IQ software to evaluate the collection; the consensus was to proceed with the purchase

Public Comment:

Several members of the public spoke.

A question was asked relative to equal opportunity issues with filling board positions.

Another participant like the idea of using the village space as storage and also expressed concern about the lack of transparency over the continued possibility of moving the library because they felt not much needs to be changed.

Lastly a comment was offered about the excitement to see how the tax money is being used but the speaker was also concerned about the 'two-prong approach' being used to plan the location of the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Hagen