

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

April 27, 2017

Central Library

PRESENT: Cheryl Cufari, Camille Siano Enders, Anthony Gaddy, Cori Hoffman, Sharon Jordan, M. Joe Landry, William Levering, Julie McDonnell, Jamaica Miles, Marsha Mortimore, Carmel Patrick, Edwin D. Reilly, Jr., Tina Chericoni Versaci, Karen Bradley, Serena Butch, Janice Martin-recorder

ABSENT: Randy Fine, Donna Phillips

SCHENECTADY
COUNTY

LEGISLATURE: Holly Vellano

GUESTS: Ken Wagner, Frank Wicks

Carmel Patrick called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Frank Wicks presented, on behalf of a statue committee, including members Marsha Mortimore, Brian Merriam, Professor Twitty Styles and Professor Carl George about a "Harriet Tubman and William Seward" statue. Dr. Wicks is asking trustees to consider housing the life-sized statue at the library. Discussion ensued. Karen Bradley would need to check with the County, Facilities Department and the Friends of the Library.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 23 AND MARCH 23 MEETING

The minutes of the February 23, 2017 and March 23, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion by William Levering, seconded by Anthony Gaddy.

Carmel Patrick reported that the 2018 budget process is beginning. Trustee input is encouraged and discussions will be held at the next several board meetings beginning with this evening, Thursday, April 27, 2017.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

Joe Landry asked for a motion to approve Resolution 1 – Approval of SCPL Board of Trustees Expenditures. A motion was made by Tina Chericoni Versaci, seconded by William Levering and approved unanimously.

Julie McDonnell reported that the county manager will be asking Karen Bradley for a 2018 budget request soon. Included in trustee packets is a summary of the 2018 budget request. Highlighted areas will be reviewed at this evening's meeting.

Ken Wagner, on behalf of Randy Fine, Chair, and the Technology Committee, made a presentation to the board about the 2018 equipment and technology budget. Randy Fine was unable to attend this evening's meeting. Discussion ensued. Carmel thanked the Technology Committee. Val Catlin thanked Ken Wagner for his help with the McChesney Room A/V upgrade.

After lengthy discussion, Carmel Patrick asked the trustees if there were any further questions or comments. The Finance Committee will be meeting regularly and will have a better picture of the 2018 budget once they have met with the County; they will keep trustees updated.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report submitted by Carmel Patrick.

- Trustee Jamaica Miles submitted her resignation from Schenectady County Public Library Board of Trustees. Carmel thanked Jamaica for her years of service to SCPL.
- The Trustees need to recommend a replacement for Bern Allanson on the Mohawk Valley Library System Board. If trustees are interested in this open seat, or have a recommendation, please contact Karen Bradley.
- Congratulations to Cheryl Cufari whose dedicated volunteer leadership is being recognized by MVLS with its *Harold & Junice Wusterbarth Volunteer Service Award*.
- Carmel Patrick, Cheryl Cufari and SCPL staff members attended the April 6 MVLS workshop, "Libraries = Education," presented by Valerie Gross, President & CEO of the Howard County Library System in Maryland and 2013 *Library Journal* "Librarian of the Year."
- Cheryl Cufari, Joe Landry and Carmel Patrick attended the Friends annual dinner on April 6.
- Kudos to Karen Bradley and the SCPL team for their recognition by the City Mission for the staff's work on incorporating the Bridges Out of Poverty model into its delivery of programs and services.
- Meetings with prospective donors to the Mont Pleasant Branch project are going well. To date we have confirmed pledges totaling \$290,000. Thanks to Sharon Jordan for her leadership and coordination efforts.
- Carmel Patrick attended planning and finance committee meetings as well as the Mont Pleasant meetings and she thanked all committee members for their dedication.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Report submitted by Karen Bradley.

- Applications for the Assistant Director of Library Operations are coming in.
- Kaela Wallman assumes her new position as the Head of Youth Services on Monday, May 1 and Chinasa Seyse will begin her new position as a Youth Services librarian to replace Kaela.
- Our library annual report is enclosed in trustee packets. Thank you to Doug Bixler for formatting it with infographics this year.
- The NYS Legislature adopted the state budget; libraries fared well, particularly in the area of the NYS Public Library Construction funds.
- The library held a successful series of Early Literacy programs as part of the Schenectady Foundation grant.
- The first of a series of Community Conversations as to what the Mont Pleasant residents would like to see in their new library will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
- A team of staff members are meeting weekly with Elissa Kane on the staff input needed for the BOT Long Range Strategic Plan. When the group finishes their work, they will present a report to the BOT, possibly at our July meeting.
- The MVLS annual dinner meeting is May 10, 2017.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Report submitted by Val Catlin.

- At the March board meeting, the Friends pledged \$120,000 towards the proposed new Mont Pleasant Branch.
- Training is on-going for the new point of sale system at the WBC.
- The trip to NYC (9/11 Memorial and NYPL) went very well.
- The spring book sale is May 6-7.
- Donna Fairlee and Rita Moore are working with Joe Landry on the June 9 staff/volunteer picnic.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Report submitted by Sharon Jordan.

- Progress continues with clean up on the second floor.
- Plans continue for the proposed Mont Pleasant Branch Library.
- The annual tour of branches began on Monday, April 17 (Scotia, Glenville, Niskayuna, Woodlawn and Bornt). Rotterdam and Central will be at a later date. Mont Pleasant will not be toured (it will be replaced). Quaker Street will be having a complete makeover; in planning stages now.

NEW BUSINESS

Marsha Mortimore remarked how wonderful the mentoring program is at the Bornt Branch Library.

Joe Landry passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet for the staff/volunteer picnic on June 9 at River Road Park.

Karen Bradley responded to Jamaica Miles' question regarding the community conversations at the Mont Pleasant Branch Library. The sessions will be held to hear from the community, young and old, what they want for the new library. A survey was given out Wednesday night at the first session by the Mont Pleasant Neighborhood Association.

Karen Bradley asked Trustees to "Save the Date," Friday, June 30, for Serena Butch's retirement gathering. It will be held at the Stockade Inn from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Marsha Mortimore announced that there will be a concert held at the First Reformed Church on Saturday, May 13 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Sharon Jordan, seconded by Jamaica Miles and approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 25 at 5:30 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Central Library.