

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
June 24, 2021
The Honorable Karen B. Johnson Library

PRESENT: Cheryl Cufari, Deborah Escobar, Heather Gray, Sharon Jordan, Joe Landry, William Levering, Steven McCutcheon, Julie McDonnell, Carmel Patrick, Shawn Schultz, Brenda Schworm

Ex-Officio: Karen Bradley, Director; Beth DeMidio, Assistant Library Director for Operations; Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director III, Charlene Roman, President, Friends of the Library; Janice P. Martin, Board Clerk

ABSENT: Portia Alston, Randy Fine, Tina Chericoni Versaci

William Levering called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

- No one spoke during privilege of the floor.

AGENDA

- There were no changes or additions to the agenda. It was approved as distributed.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 27 MEETING

- William Levering entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 Board of trustees meeting. As there were no changes, the minutes passed unanimously on a motion by Sharon Jordan seconded by Shawn Schultz.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- William Levering thanked the County Manager and County Attorney for their part in negotiating a 5-year contract with CSEA.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The Woodlawn Branch had a reopening event on Friday, June 4, 2021.
- The KBJ Library was a ten-day early voting site for the Schenectady County Primaries.
- Beth DeMidio and Karen Bradley met with the County Manager and his Deputy to discuss the transition to the full operation of all libraries as of Labor Day. Staffing needs have been identified and the process to begin hiring has begun.
- The Adult and Youth Services Summer Reading Program kicked off on June 21, 2021.
- We kicked off a program series entitled "Dreams of Equality" that featured Jason Benitez at our first in-person event at KBJ on June 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. This will be followed by a series of book readings/discussion, film and lectures through the remainder of 2021. The series is being coordinated in collaboration from Legislator Gatta and the Chair of our Human Rights Commission, Arthur Butler.
- We have met with SCI about the circulation desk and furnishings for the Scotia branch project and are picking up our planning at the Niskayuna and Glenville Branch Libraries for furnishings.

- Kaela Wallman and Karen Bradley did the first Outreach event at Juneteenth on June 19, 2021 in Central Park.
- The Board of Trustees Community Survey is going well. Thank you to Trustees and Friends of the Library who have been able to volunteer to pass them out.
- The Friends book sale, held on June 5-6, 2021 went very well.
- The Bornt Branch Library was the site of primary voting on June 22, 2021 and the site for an afternoon vaccine POD by the County Public Health Services Department. Cheryl Cufari administered the survey during the afternoon.
- We have been notified by Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh's office that we will be receiving \$25,000 in New York State Bullet Aid to support the needs of the Scotia Branch Library. In addition, Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara has secured New York State Bullet Aid for the Mont Pleasant Branch Library.
- We are currently working on the budget narrative for 2022 to submit to the County.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

- Charlene Roman recently volunteered to hand out surveys at the Glenville and Mont Pleasant Branch Libraries. She was impressed that staff at both branches acknowledged everyone by name.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- The Technology Committee met and reviewed the supplemental and security camera upgrades to all nine branches of the Schenectady County Public Library. The findings were presented to the Finance Committee for approval. Both committees agreed to include to the County of Schenectady, a \$100,000 request for security cameras to be included in the 2022 budget for Capital Projects. They moved that the following resolution be approved:
 - Schenectady County Public Library 2022 Capital Project – Security Cameras. The resolution passed unanimously.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

- Sharon Jordan will have a report for the July meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Finance Committee chair, Joe Landry made a motion to approve the following resolutions:
 - Approval of SCPL Board of Trustees Expenditures – The resolution passed unanimously.
 - Approval of Schenectady County Public Library Amended 2022 Library Budget Request. Administration reviewed the 2022 budget request for the Schenectady County Public Library System and identified the need to create a Youth Services Librarian III position. The findings were presented to the Finance Committee for approval. Discussion ensued. Resolution passed unanimously.
- Schenectady County Facilities will be submitting the budget for the library on our behalf for new carpeting at Rotterdam, as well as a new circulation desk.
- The Library will apply for New York State Construction Funds in July.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Cheryl Cufari reported that over 800 surveys have been registered on-line, some of which were entered from print surveys. The public appreciates what the library did during the Pandemic. Cheryl thanked SCPL staff.

BRANCH COMMITTEE

- Heather Gray tentatively scheduled a Branch Committee meeting for July 8, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS

- Carmel Patrick announced that the Rotary Club has established a one-time “Hero Award.” This award will be presented to Karen Bradley at the next Rotary meeting on July 8 at noon for her outstanding leadership during the Pandemic.
- William Levering announced that the Personnel Committee will be meeting in the next week or two.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 5 at 6:00 p.m. ****Please Note** This is a change from the original date of Thursday, July 22, 2021.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm on a motion by Carmel Patrick, seconded by Shawn Schultz.