

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
July 28, 2022

PRESENT: Cheryl Cufari, Deborah Escobar, David Fronk, Sharon Jordan, Julie McDonnell, Carmel Patrick, Haileab Samuel, Brenda Schworm, Angela Tatem, Tina Chericoni Versaci

ABSENT: Randy Fine Steve McCutcheon, Bernice Rivera

Ex-Officio: Devon Hedges, Co-Interim Director; Beth DeMidio, Co-Interim Director; Janice P. Martin, Board Clerk

Deborah Escobar called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – None.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9 MEETING

- The minutes of the June 9, 2022 2022 Library Board of Trustees meeting were approved as submitted on a motion by Tina Chericoni Versaci, seconded by Haileab Samuel.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Deborah Escobar reported that she was exposed to Covid last week and while she has not tested positive, she is attending the meeting virtually this evening.
- MVLS has provided Advocacy Grant funds to member libraries
- There are two vacancies on the board with the departure of Heather Gray and Joe Landry.
- Carmel Patrick has replaced Joe Landry as the Chair of the Finance Committee.
- Need a replacement for Heather Gray as the representative for the branch committee.
- Charity Thorne has accepted the position of Executive Library Director and will begin sometime in the fall. The announcement will be made to staff after the board meeting this evening.

CO- INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Summer Reading will have presented over 100 program offerings to our communities in July alone.
- Comic Con was successful on July 9, 2022 with approximately 1,200 attendees. Thank you to Doug Bixler and Julie Dahlie as well as the Friends of the Library and all volunteers,
- Beth DeMidio and Devon Hedges met with the County Manager's Office and the Finance Department on July 14, 2022 to review the 2023 budget.
- The American Red Cross held a blood drive at KBJ on July 15, 2022. Fourteen donors participated.
- Ten staff members attended the first De-escalation for Vulnerable People training on July 19, 2022.
- Beth DeMidio and Devon Hedges met with our Bibliotheca representative to discuss plans for the replacement of the Materials Handling Unit and self-check machines as part of the 2020 capital budget
- Devon Hedges and Ken Wagner toured library facilities with the Adirondack Cabling, Inc. representative for security camera and equipment upgrades as outlined in the 2021 capital budget.
- SiCM began the free summer lunch program at both KBJ and Mont Pleasant, which runs through the end of August.
- SCPL's Youth Services Department is participating in the Summer Youth Employment ProGear through SJTA.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY – No report.

## BRANCH COMMITTEE

- Beth DeMidio reported that the committee met on June 16, 2022 at the Scotia Branch Library. Representatives are happy that hours have increased at branches. They also keep in contact with branch staff/librarians to discuss the needs of their branch.

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

- Glenville – Outside landscaping has been designed by Mary Moore Wallinger. The County will bid it out. Board action needed in September. Work will begin late fall or more likely in spring of 2023.
- Rotterdam – Rehab and Upgrade. Selection of furnishings and design have begun. Work should start in October and library will be closed for approximately two to three weeks.
- KBJ – County found a landscaping firm. Work continues on installation of grass in two beds. Everything should be ready by fall and in place for spring of 2023. Re4orm Architects will have a presentation for the Board at the September 22, 2022 board meeting.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Carmel Patrick presented the following resolutions:

- Resolution 1 – Approval of Schenectady County Public Library Systems 2023 Capital Project. Roof replacement at KBJ. A motion to approve was made by Sharon Jordan, seconded by Haileab Samuel. Motion passed.
- Resolution 2 – Approval of Schenectady County Public Library Systems 2023 Capital Project. Roof replacement, sidewalk replacement and upgrade to the HVAC system at the Glenville Branch Library. A motion was made by Tina Chericoni Versaci, seconded by Sharon Jordan. Motion passed.
- Resolution 3 – Approval of submission of grant application to Mohawk Valley Library System for the New York State Public Library Construction Grant. For State Aid for library construction grant program for projects at Karen B. Johnson Central Library and Glenville Branch Library. Discussion ensued. Library administration has conferred with the Mohawk Valley Library System to review our proposed projects to determine eligibility. A motion to approve was made by Sharon Jordan, seconded by Julie McDonnell. Motion passed.
- Resolution 4 – Approval of the \$15,000 for Technology Improvements at KBJ. SCPL Board of Trustees received an anonymous donation of \$15,000 toward public computers at SCPL. The Technology Committee presented the request to the finance committee for the purchase of public computers. The SCPL Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of up to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to purchase technology for the library. A motion was made by Tina Chericoni Versaci, seconded by Samuel Haileab. Motion passed.
- Resolution 5 – Approval of SCPL Board of Trustees Monthly Expenditures. A motion to approve was made by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Tina Chericoni Versaci. Motion passed.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – No report.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE – No report.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Deb Escobar reported that the Policy Committee has been meeting. No changes were made at this time; actions are postponed.
- Cheryl Cufari made a motion to accept, with regret, the resignations of Heather Gray and Joe Landry. She thanked them for their service. Carmel Patrick seconded. Motion passed.
- The office of secretary is vacant due to Heather Gray's resignation. Deb Escobar asked for a volunteer to fill the role. Angela Tatem agreed to take the position. Carmel Patrick nominated Angela Tatem, Julie McDonnell seconded. Nomination approved.
- The board needs to replace the Chair for the Branch Committee, held formerly by Heather Gray. Deb Escobar will send out an email to members with details about the chair's role.

- Deb Escobar is looking to step down from the MVLS Board. They will eventually need a replacement. The candidate must be a resident of Schenectady County and meetings are held monthly at MVLS at 9:30 a.m. if anyone is interested or can recommend a candidate.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. on a motion by Carmel Patrick, seconded by David Fronk.