

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The regular monthly meeting of the Schenectady County Public Library Trustees was held on Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.

PRESENT: Madelyn Thorne, President; Brenda Schworm, Vice President; Carmel Patrick, Treasurer; David Fronk; Sharon Jordan; Steve McCutcheon; Julie McDonnell; Jude McQueen; Bernice Rivera

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: Justin Chaires; Angela Tatem, Secretary; Tina Chericoni Versaci

STAFF: Charity Thorne, Executive Director; Beth DeMidio, Director of Operations; Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director; Jan Martin, Board Clerk

GUESTS: Charlene Roman, President, Friends of the Library; Shirley DeBono, First Vice-President, Friends of the Library; Tim Burke, Executive Director UHLS

President Madelyn Thorne called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Gifford, Lincoln Street, Scotia, New York

Kaela Wallman, Lorraine Avenue, Schenectady, New York

- Comments centered on Schenectady County Public Library withdrawal from the Joint Automation System

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Sharon Jordan, seconded by David Fronk. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 2 – Approval of 2025 SCPL Operating Budget

Director of Operations Beth DeMidio presented the draft 2025 budget request to the County.

Moved by Carmel Patrick, seconded by Bernice Riviera. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION 3 – Acceptance and Expenditure of Ryan Bequest

Moved by Julie McDonnell, seconded by Carmel Patrick. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Madelyn Thorne, David Fronk, Beth DeMidio and Charity Thorne attended the MVLS Spring Symposium on May 3, 2024 at the Margaret Reaney Memorial Library in St. Johnsville. For the second half of the event, MVLS contracted with New York Conference of Non for Profits to run an open discussion with the executive directors and trustees who were in attendance. The MVLS staff and trustees left the room at that time. Within the meeting, the concerns that we have had as a member of JA and MVLS were expressed by other libraries. After many months of deliberation, the decision for SCPL to withdraw from JA has been fortified. It is the right move for our patrons. Discussion ensued.

Library Board of Trustees member, Cheryl Cufari, resigned on May 1, 2024.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Trustees reviewed the written report by Executive Director, Charity Thorne.

Guest Tim Burke, Executive Director of the Upper Hudson Library System, was introduced by Charity Thorne. Burke reported the UHLS Board of Trustees unanimously voted to fully explore the idea of a resource sharing agreement with SCPL up to and including membership in UHLS at their May meeting. Burke then took questions from SCPL trustees.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

- The spring book sale netted approximately \$16,000. It was well attended. Tip jars near cashiers raised over \$700. Patrons are very generous
- The Friends picnic will be held on Friday, June 7 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Central Park Pavilion. Desserts are welcome if anyone wants to bring them.
- The Outreach Committee met on Wednesday, May 22. Scholarships are ready to be handed out to all county high schools.
- Harry Potter Day – tentatively scheduled at KBJ for October 19, 2024

BUILDING COMMITTEE

- Annual tour was held on May 1, 2024
- 2024 Capital Project – Renovation of the staff restrooms and staff break area on the second floor. DeMidio shared the floor plan for the new space.

FINANCE – None.

POLICY COMMITTEE – None.

MVLS REPRESENTATIVE – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.