

Fulton Public Library
Board of Trustees
January 30, 2023

Attendance:

Trustees Present: Ellen Himes, President, Sarah Fay, Donna Jones, Pat Kush, Maria Fazzini, Dennis Merlino, Carolyn Mosier, David Phares, Kathy Sipling

Also present: Caroline Chatterton, Librarian, Deborah Standish, Treasurer

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by President Ellen Himes.

Adoption of Agenda:

No objections or amendments to the agenda. Approved as presented.

Public Comments: Dennis Merlino spoke for the Friends of the Library. He said that he and his wife represented the Friends group at the CNY Arts snow day festival. The library table was very busy and well received.

Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes and Agenda:

Meeting minutes of December 19, 2022 approved with no corrections.

Review Financial Reports:

The financial reports and disbursements were approved as presented.

Library Director's Report:

Caroline Chatterton presented the Library Director's Report (see attached). Caroline reported that circulation statistics are doing OK. We have been seeing an uptick in patrons the past few weeks. We may want to increase our budget for e-books this year.

Caroline said that we had a big turn out for the Graham Cracker Holiday Houses and the Mason Jar Luminaries. We had a local author visit from Kathy Schrecengost. She read her book, "Kevin in Quarantine". We held our first Saturday Crafternoon where we invited crafters to join us to work on their in-progress projects. Brianna is hosting a Bingo Night on Feb. 23rd in the Community Room at City Hall.

Committee Reports:

- **Capital Campaign:** Kathy reported that the committee will meet this Wednesday at 10 AM
- **Finance:** Will be meeting on Feb 15 at 10 AM.
- **Grant:** Ellen reported that we are expecting bids for the community room to come in high because construction prices have gone up. We are going to ask Emmorae company to look at the project.

We did receive money for the ramp but we need to know what is going on with the DRI grant before we do anything outside. Next on our list is looking for quotes for installing air conditioning upstairs and perhaps some quotes for new windows downstairs to replace windows that are over 30 years old. Both of these projects may be covered in the NYS Library Grant.

- LRSP: no report
- Policy: Dennis reported that the committee met and they are looking at policies that are 5 years old and older. They will review these policies and bring them to the board for approval one at a time.
- Personnel: no report
- Safety/Maintenance Committee: no report

Unfinished Business:

- Community Room Bid. Ellen reported that she is expecting bids for the community room to come in high because construction prices have risen. Also, we are going to ask Emmorae company to look at the project and possibly bid on it.
- Main Floor Renovation update: Janelle Bossuot from Educational Furnishings is working up 3D plans for everyone to get a better picture of the new ideas for upstairs renovation.

New Business:

- Budget Vote: Everyone reviewed the Tax Cap Report history. After some discussion, Sarah made a motion that we ask for a 5% tax increase. Carolyn seconded. Eight voted in favor with one abstention. The motion passed.
- Roof: After Christmas, heavy winds tore off some of the copper sheeting on the roof and took down some of the slate shingles. Caroline called the insurance adjusters and they haven't gotten back to her. Syracuse Sheet Metal Company put up plastic tarps to protect the interior from leakage and gave the library a quote for fixing the roof. There was discussion about what our insurance policy covers and if the cities insurance will cover the cost.
- Mural Information: Caroline met with Alicia Wilson, our muralist, and gave her some ideas and feedback. We are thinking of flowers, trees, vines up the columns, etc. She will also do a façade of the library, the post office and the Pratt house.

Public Comments: none

The **meeting was adjourned** 5:22 PM by Ellen Himes.

Our next Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2023 at 4:00 PM.

Our next Friends meeting is March 1, 2023 5:30 PM in the library.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Sipling
Secretary