

BROOME COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session Minutes

April 6, 2017

Members Present: Nancy Abashian, Connie Barnes, Margaret Coffey, Laura Evans Kathy Jablonowski, Jesse Katen, Jennifer Monroe, Chelsea Reome, Margaret Shiel, Wendy Stewart, Amoreena Wade

Absent: None

Also Present: Director Lisa Wise, Sherry Kowalski, Representative Claudia Tenney's Assistant Patrick LaBuff, Four County Library System Director Steve Bachman, Broome County Executive Assistant Ben Lainhart.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at by President Jesse Katen at 8:29 a.m.

Public Comments: None

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Rebecca Lumsden, Representative Tenney's Office:

Patrick LaBuff sat in for Rebecca Lumsden to learn about issues affecting BCPL and community partners, including disappointment in federal IMLS funding cuts; loss of Novel database service; genealogy program; national summer reading program; ESL; literacy programs; computer education; BCPL staffing cuts from 47 to 24 employees since 2000. He assured us of a response from DC staff on Tenney's behalf.

Minutes of Last Board Meeting: Approved on a motion by M. Coffey, seconded by M. Shiel.

Appointments and Resignations: None

REPORTS:

Board President: J. Katen:

- Discussion of whether to revise policy on charging not-for-profit groups rent. Suggestions made: pay in-kind with donation or by working a Friends' book sale, cleaning, etc. Decision made to leave to L. Wise's discretion. N. Abashian to draft parameters for use of space, to be presented at May Board meeting.
- Reminder that Ethics forms due April 15
- J. Katen and L. Wise will meet to pursue grant through County to fund rebranding and Code of Conduct. Code of Conduct will then be sent to W. Stewart and C. Reome before presenting to Board for approval.

- Introduction of Ben Lainhart of the County Executive. Board asks about replacement from P. DeWind, County Attorney. Asks about funding—looks tight for two years. Discussion of redistricting.
- Luck of the Library: N. Abashian and committee and staff thanked for very successful event. Future holiday themes planned.

Director: L. Wise:

- Good meeting yesterday at BU downtown campus: will work with professors re. strategic planning and branding/marketing. Work with College of Community and Public Affairs.
- Trustees workshop May 6. Trustees asked to review the *Handbook for Library Trustees of New York State*, 2016 updates available online

NEW BUSINESS:

- Minimum Standards: Trustees need 3 hours per year of training and Staff 8 hours for their accreditation. Given minimal staffing, difficult to spare staff for training and travel to conferences is expensive. Discussion of applying to Community Foundation to cover costs. Survey to collect needs and desires to be incorporated into staff development day in October.
- HOOPLA: S. Kowalski's online survey indicates patrons are borrowing every kind of medium available, with very high satisfaction with all but music. Discussion of whether HOOPLA diverts funding from physical collections; L. Wise says it does not, and that some electronic items are not available otherwise. Pointed out that people without WiFi can use it in the library. Purchase of \$10,000 plan approved on a motion by N. Abashian, seconded by M. Shiel. Discussion of putting BCPL's name on it and making it clear that starting next year, other member libraries will need to contribute to costs. M. Coffey: review program and ensure users know who's providing service. N. Abashian moves to give member libraries fair warning and collect usage statistics, M. Shiel seconds.

OLD BUSINESS:

- SUNY Broome & Big Read: good turnout for Tim O'Brien's excellent reading and talk, but publicity was disappointing for Big Read program in general. Mixed results for reading groups. Discussion of how to keep discussions on track
- Friends 50th Anniversary: various ideas shared including a summer appreciation event and a feature in the BPSP for Volunteers' Week. M. Coffey moves to fundraise to a budget of \$300 from Board (approximately \$30/member) then evaluate resources, seconded by C. Reome. Send commitment to W. Stewart by May 3 in time to report amount only at next Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Personnel Issue. Motion to move into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issue at 9:45 a.m. made by A. Wade, seconded by W. Stewart. Motion to accept by C. Barnes, seconded by A. Wade. Returned to regular session at 9:48 on a motion by W. Stewart, seconded by M. Shiel.

3-D printer discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Stewart

Wendy Stewart,

Secretary