

**Katonah Village Library Board Meeting Minutes**  
*Monday, November 26, 2018, 7:30pm*

**Regular Meeting**

**Call to order** (Virginia Lanigan) at 7:37 p.m.

**Present:** Barbara Chintz, Steve Brotmann, Mike Dwyer, Jack Freudenheim, Rhea Johnson, Virginia Lanigan, Susan Polos, Alan Eifert, Susan Popovic, Joe Tropiano, Jennifer Versacci, Alan Eifert, Kate Galligan, Jack Freudenheim, Director Mary Kane

**Absent:** Anthony Mamo, Mary Herrnstadt, Craig Intinarelli

**Minutes**

Minutes from the October meeting were approved without exception.

**Director's Report** (Mary Kane)

Please see the Director's Report for more information.

**Finance Report** (Dwyer)

Mike shared the 2019 budget. We are investing in the hiring of a part time development associate to help KVL raise money going forward. Our fall fundraiser brought in a little less than last year's, attributable to having less big-ticket auction items.

**Nominating Committee** (Johnson and Lanigan)

Board candidate, Vienna Wong, was nominated by the Committee, and voted unanimously onto the Library's Board by the Trustees. Vienna will begin her board service at the January 2019 meeting.

**Book Sale Committee** (Herrnstadt)

No official report.

**Buildings and Grounds** (Brotmann)

The Committee met and came up with a list of bigger and smaller items needing attention, including a new A/C system. The committee will regroup early in the new year, look at the estimated costs for the projects, and prioritize. The tree near the corner (in front of plaza near historic corner entrance) was removed by the Town. Alan E. indicated the Chamber might like to donate a tree, but there is not consensus regarding what would be best there; concrete and a planter were mentioned.

**Programming** (Freudenheim)

The Winter Concert this Sunday is putting its proceeds towards the Library's piano tuning.

On Dec. 8 we will have a Brazilian Jazz concert.

Mike and Jack are working on coordinating an Irish music event. Jack is purchasing speakers.

Jack has made contact with the Small Town Theater folks to find out about lighting.

The Programming Committee (Barb, Jack, Susan, Maura and Mary K.) met with two storytellers to plan an extension of our storytelling series, possibly including a Moth event. Committee is considering a memoir series, as well as the fiction series already proposed. Also considering charging admission to cover expenses.

**Executive Session** (begun at 8:27 p.m.)

Staff salary increases were proposed by the director, and then discussed by the full group.

Executive Session concluded at approx. 9:25; when Regular Session was resumed.

**ACTION ITEM:** The Director's staff salary increases were approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

The next meeting is Monday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. Virginia will communicate with the board about this meeting, which is also a holiday staff appreciation event.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Polos, Secretary

## **KVL Director's Report October 24-November 26, 2018:**

Due to our amazing volunteers, **The Library's Book Sale** was a great success, making over \$22,000. Just one week later, the **Harvest Table Library Benefit and Auction** was also an achievement, due in great part to a well-planned event via the Board of Trustees. At the event, the Library honored volunteers, Harry Stanton and Beth Dalrymple, with speeches from both Supervisor Chris Burdick and Assemblyman David Buchwald. The auction went smoothly, and the paddle raise was well-managed, due to Board Trustee spotters. The music was so lively that there was a "first"—dancing between the stacks! (Board Trustee Jack Freudenheim was on drums, and Children's Librarian, Stephanie Hartwell-Mandella singing.) The event netted around \$45,000.

**The Library's book group** read Ian McEwan's *Nutshell*. **The World Affairs Book Club** read *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann. **Great Decisions** discussed the European Union and **Great Courses** covered various Geological Wonders, including Antarctica and Gibraltar. **Katonah Poetry Series** had around 100 attendees with poet Carl Phillips. **AARP Safe Driving Course**, **Chair Yoga** and **Bridge playing** were all well attended as usual.

### **Art at the Library**

**Sculptor Meredith Bergmann** gave a talk at the library co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Northeastern Westchester. Meredith discussed her sculpture design which was chosen for the Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony Woman Suffrage Movement Monument. (This will be the first statue of real women in New York City's Central Park.) **Katonah Museum of Art Artists** are currently displaying in both the Garden and Meeting Rooms.

### **New Horizons: Celebrating Stephanie and Tina the Turtle**

We had a celebration in honor of Stephanie's move to North Castle Library, and Tina's move into her new tank! Children and parents visited, and gave Stephanie flowers and well-wishes. The celebration included: turtle cupcake decorating, turtle games and turtle gifts for the kids. The day ended with a visit from the National Circus Project. Staff had a separate going-away get together for Stephanie. We also have an exciting announcement regarding Stephanie.

### **Building**

-Atlantic Westchester did an assessment of the air conditioner and will meet with the Building and Grounds Committee to inform the Library if a new unit is needed. (I have not signed our yearly contract with Atlantic Westchester as we may want to look for a new company if the unit needs replacement.)

-The fax machine has been out of order. Optimum says it is not their issue, nor is it the fax machine itself.

### **New Staff**

Eileen Waltmyer has been hired as the Library's new **Development Manager**. Ellen previous work experience includes The Hartford Hospital and American Cancer Society, where she was a Major Gift Officer. She also worked for many years at The Masonic Charity Foundation, as the Coordinator of Annual Giving and recently volunteered her development skills at her own library in Fairfield Ct, where she helped raise money for a capital campaign. I have been interviewing

for the **Children's Librarian position** and have met some very promising candidates.

### **Sunday Volunteers**

We have been running short on Sunday volunteers to help Virginia Fetscher run the circulation desk. However, we just acquired two more interested individuals, which may solve the issue.

### **Meetings Attended**

- First meeting of **Katonah Fiction Series** with Chris Spain, Moira Trachtenberg-Thielking, Lauren Acampora and Maura Rosenthal
- Staff meeting
- 59<sup>th</sup> WLS Annual Meeting with guest speaker Honorable Rossana Rosado.
- Public Library Director's Association Meeting
- Building and Grounds Committee Meeting
- Programming Meeting: Storytelling, with Susan Polos, Barbara Chintz, Jack Freudenheim, and Maura Rosenthal, Storytellers Melissa Heckler and Carol Birch.

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