



Katonah Village Library Board Meeting Minutes 12/20/21

Regular Meeting - VIRTUAL

Moved to EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:18PM.

Moved back to REGULAR Meeting at 8:29PM.

Call to order (Mike Dwyer) at 7:37 p.m.

Present: Mary Kane, Mike Dwyer, Rhea Johnson, Mary Herrnsstadt, Jennifer Versacci, Ian Shaw, Cassie Coccaro, Vienna Wong, Ian Shaw, Amy Drucker, Susan Popovic, Joe Tropiano, Tony Mamo

Absent: Barb Chintz, Sue Hassett, Vienna Wong

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the November, 2021 meeting were approved with no exception.

Director's Report (Mary Kane) See attachment

Received the library museum AARPA grant - \$99K! This is one-time funding through a grant with a focus on children's programming.

Mike will send out a synopsis of all the committee assignments requesting input from Board members on which groups they want to participate in in 2022.

Committee Reports

Finance Report (Ian Shaw and Mike Dwyer)

We are surpassing our annual appeal target. We have in the past month received some unexpected, substantial donations. The Town has expressed interest in supporting the Library going forward as well.

This is very encouraging! We need to determine if this type of response is sustainable. We will focus on appreciation of all our patrons / donors and make sure we continue building relationships with them.

Motion to approve proposed salary increases and wages for 2022 – approved unanimously

Motion to approve: Dedicate the ~\$176K 2021 operating surplus (which amount is net of \$47K ADA construction grant amount which will be spent in 2022) and maintain it as an “Operating Reserve” - i.e. to fund library services we cannot otherwise afford over the next few years while the Town works to increase our annual operating support to a level that will be sustainably support our operating costs. Ordinarily, we would move any surplus to our capital reserve fund (but not this time). approved unanimously

Motion to approve 2022 budget as proposed – approved unanimously

Building and Grounds

We are still working toward getting contractors to make our bathroom ADA compliant; we believe we identified a contractor that is within our budget. We are seeking approval to proceed with the project beginning in January.

Motion to approve Concordia ADA project – approved unanimously

Book Sales (Mary Herrstadt)

Programming Committee (Mike Dwyer)

Nominating Committee (Susan Popovic)

Development Committee (Rhea Johnson)

N/A

We all said thank you to Joe Tropiano for his service to the board for six years and wished him well.

*****Board Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.**

**The next Board Meeting will be in January 2022.
Please see Director’s report attached below.**

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Versacci, Secretary



KATONAH VILLAGE LIBRARY
We are Community...

Director's Report

November 20-December 17, 2021

Governor's Mask Mandate

Governor Kathy Hochul announced that masks are required to be worn in all indoor public places unless businesses or venues implement a vaccine requirement. The Library is continuing to require mask wearing. After the governor's mandate, we had issues with two people refusing to wear masks. Both were resolved, though in one instance, the patron left the library in anger and said he would be contacting the Library's board of trustees.

In-Person Programming

The library held its first two in-person Tai Chi classes. The class was intentionally limited to 15 participants in the Garden Room (room capacity is 110), and prior to class, attendees were required to register online and sign both a covid and health waiver. At the first class, participants were required to show vaccination cards at the door, and wear masks. There were no issues with participants complying and there is a wait list for this class. We will continue to monitor government and town policies and changes week by week should there be any new recommendations based on the number of covid cases in our area.

Library/Museum ARPA Partnership Grant

On December 13th, we were informed by Metropolitan New York Library Council (METRO) that we had received the Library and Museum ARPA Partnership grant! We had originally asked for \$60,355. However, the grant committee encouraged us to include overlooked costs on our end, including staff training, consultant fees and staff costs/fringe benefits of those working on the grant. The Library and Museum went back and forth adding numbers and we resubmitted the grant with an ask of \$99,308.

2021 Annual Report

Westchester Libraries have been unable to work on their year-end annual reports due to issues with Mt Vernon Library. (There is an investigation into alleged corruption and financial discrepancies via some members of the Mount Vernon Library's board of trustees and all financial figures are under review by the New York State Library, so numbers/rankings/financial pages are subject to change.