



Katonah Village Library

Board Meeting Minutes

June 27,2022

Regular Meeting (Held on Zoom)

Call to order (Rhea Johnson, acting President) at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Mary Kane, Rhea Johnson, Ian Shaw, Susan Popovic, Barb Chintz, Tony Mamo , Ali Vigil, Mary Herrnsstadt, Sue Hassett

Absent: Jennifer Versacci, Cassio Coccaro, Susan Popovic, Vienna Wong, Mike Dwyer.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May 2022 board meeting were approved with no exceptions.

Finance Committee (Ian Shaw)

Ian reported that the current budget is on par: we are spending more than last year since we are open more days and hours, but we are coming in lower in personnel costs due to staffing changes. We are looking for a new accountant because we will need to have an internal audit as our revenue has increased due to the Library and Museum Grant. Ian noted that Michael Dwyer and Mary Kane will be meeting with the Town in the near future.

Sue Hassett raised the idea of KVL going fine-free—a nationwide movement—meant to erase barriers to Library use. However, concerns were brought up about KVL's current financial situation, as we are falling short in several revenue-earning areas including our inability to hold the book sale and the lack of room rentals. As KVL does not know if the TOB will increase funding, and whether we will be sustainable, going fine-free is questionable. Ian said our book fines are pretty low this year. Mary Kane said that pre-covid we took in \$16,000 a year from fines. But circulation is down and staff is also trying to be lenient with people, as they are experiencing hardship due to covid. Mary suggested we start going fine-free with the Children's Room before we go library-wide. Parents often take out large quantities of books at a time.

For our next meeting on July 25, we will make a decision about going fine-free for the Children's room.

Director's Report (Mary Kane) See attachment.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds (Sue Hassett)

The Building and Grounds Committee met last Wed. Sue said that they want to have a master plan of items that KVL needs to have done now and going forward. Two big-ticket future items on the master plan are a BMS for the HVAC system as well as adding HVAC to the book sorting room. We also need to do exterior paint because we have a lot of flaking, particularly on the historical entrance.

KVL's new emergency generator is in the works. Sue said they are starting to get estimates. She mentioned that a patron asked about using solar. We looked into it. It calls for a battery back-up, and the cost of a solar generator is significantly higher than a gas generator, well beyond the ARPA money we will receive from the town. We will continue towards the idea of a natural gas generator as there is an acute need (with the idea we may add solar or alternative energy in the future). Bedford 2030 has been consulted about that. Meanwhile, Sue said we will need ConEd's approval, as well as an electrician and plumber in order to move forward.

Nominating Committee (Amy Drucker)

Amy said that the committee needs to start the process of replacing 3 board members (Mary H. , Barb, Rhea are going off the board in Dec. 2022). DEI was a top priority.

General Discussion

Rhea noted that the KVL Diversity board meetings have been on hold due to illness of several of its members. She noted that she still wants to include an external meeting to train the board regarding diversity sensitivity. Rhea said that the goal of the DEI board is to add diversity to all aspects of the library: media selection, staffing, outreach to patrons, programming.

Ali Vigil asked about all the recent book bans and their impact on Libraries. Mary responded that KVL is prepared with a rigorous collection development policy.

Board Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

**The next Board Meeting will be July 25, 2022.
Please see the Director's report attached below.**

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Chintz, Secretary



KATONAH VILLAGE LIBRARY

We are Community...

Director's Report

May 28th-June 25, 2022

BMS System and People Counter

The installation of these two items will take some time, as require IT and/or electrician help, as both need access to the library's network and another IP address. (Currently, the Library has only one IP address.)

Mobile Printing and Update

The library utilizes an outside vendor, LibData, to manage its cloud printing (in collaboration with Ossining Library as both libraries left WLS's vendor). This management system allows us to keep track of users for the state's annual report, collect statistics, accept payments for printing and to control the amount of time the patron spends on the computer. In order to avoid paying our IT company, I spent over 15 hours updating the system with the LibData rep and installing mobile printing so patrons can print from their phones/own devices.

Landscaping

The new landscaping company planted a holly, dogwood and many new perennials as well as providing a much-needed weeding and mulching.

Katonah Poetry Series

At its June meeting, KPS formed committee positions with specific tasks including PR. The July KPS meeting will be at the Library and I will attend.

New Committee

Due to several library director retirements, the Central Library/eContent Committee lost the majority of its members, so I joined the committee. The Central Library funds help subsidize benefits for all 38 WLS libraries with the purchase of ebooks, streaming (Kanopy) and professional development.

Meetings Attended

- PLDA June Meeting
- Central Library Funds Committee