

MINUTES OF WILLIAM K. SANFORD BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

Attendance:

Present-Florence Abrams, Craig Blair, Mary Ellen Bolton, Donna Cramer-Sharer, Kimberly Fanniff, and Matthew Sissman, Keith Volsky.

Also in Attendance: Library Director Evelyn Neale.

Call to Order: Vice- President D. Cramer-Sharer called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Public Comment: None

Minutes:

A clarification was made to explain that although it was stated at the June meeting and reflected in the minutes that the Board would decide whether fines would be reinstated at the September meeting, the opening plan approved by the Board approval in May included a moratorium on fines incurred from January 1, 2020 through August 30, 2020. Consequently, there is no need for the Board to approve the lifting of the moratorium as a standalone item.

The Library has been providing notice to members that fines will be reinstated as of October 1, 2020. Fines incurred prior to the pandemic will not be waived. People who are dealing with financial hardship, however, can still ask for a waiver. The Library will keep track of how many complaints about the reinstatement of fines are received, if any, and how many requests for waivers are made.

A motion to approve the minutes, made by M. Bolton and seconded by K. Fanniff, was approved.

Opening Plan: The Library will now be open on Monday nights till 8 pm and Saturdays from 1 pm-5 pm. It will not be open for general seating.

Bylaws: A new Education Law requires library bylaws to specify the number of voting members; Board members will have time to review the law and the bylaws and approve any needed amendment of the bylaws at the October meeting.

Personnel: Two presently furloughed employees will return on October 1. The remaining furloughed employees will remain furloughed through the remainder of the year.

Joe Nash (L.3) is retiring in early October. In 2021 E. Neale would like to promote two L.1's to L. 2's.

Budget and Finance:

The year is 72% over, with fines still below \$10,000. The Library has not received any 2020 State Aid. The State Aid that shows up as money received in state aid is actually the remaining 10% due from 2019.

Library has cut its expenses by over the 10% town departments were required to make.

A motion to approve the Budget and Finances Report, made by C. Blair and seconded by K. Fanniff, was approved.

Building and Grounds: Roof replacement will start in Oct; Phase 2 is almost done. An engineer will probably have to be retained for the project of updating the heating system.

Director's Report:

Curbside pickups are decreasing; there are now two express computers for printing/ quick searches for fifteen minute periods are now available.

The Library once again won the Times Union Best Library Poll (2019) and the Upper Hudson Library System Program of the Year Award for a cooperative program the Library did with Siena College for all age groups.

The Library is now collecting donation by appointment for two hours on Thursday, limited to one box per donor. Any overflow of donations will be given to the Friends.

Upper Hudson Library System: The UHLS continues to meet weekly and will now be reviewing construction grant applications.

Friends of the Library: The Friends resumed book sales at the Farmer's Market after July 4 and hope to hold a book sale in November.

Old Business: M. Sissman and his and brother are each going to match the donation made by the Board in memory of their mother to purchase a collection of Spanish language books for children.

New Business: Staff appreciation will be discussed at the October board meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion to adjourn, made by K. Fanniff and seconded by M. Bolton, was approved at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Florence Abrams

Secretary