

Minutes February 16, 2021
Edward U. Demmer Memorial Library
Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Trustee Attendance: Ann Asbeck, Dianna Blicharz (joined 4:37), Jeff Boehm, Steve Garbowicz, Dan McKissack, Kathleen Olkowski, Patty Wallesverd (all virtual)

Absent:

Other Attendees: Erica Brewster (director)

Ann Asbeck called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

Agenda:

Motion by Patty, seconded by Kathleen, to approve the agenda in any order. All ayes, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Steve, seconded by Kathleen, to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 regular meeting as presented. All ayes, one abstention. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

Committee Reports:

Three Lakes Public Library Foundation: has not met since January 19.

Oneida County Library Board: met on February 11, 2021. Erica included the Demmer Library OCLB report in the board packet. Routine business of receiving annual contracts and heard reports from the Oneida County libraries and how they have managed services through the pandemic. OCLB continues to monitor the MCPL system situation.

Director's Report:

- Director's Report: Activities this month mainly focused on preparation of the 2020 annual report.
Building and Maintenance Report: Erica reviewed the building and maintenance report, highlighting concerns with the ductwork in the IT room, but also noted that there hasn't been any icicle buildup on the outside of the building. She noted that she was informed on Monday, 2/15, that building maintenance manager Brad Vick's last day was Friday, February 12. The current thought is to have the town shop manage maintenance on the buildings including the library. This will be addressed at the town board meeting on March 3.
- System/V-Cat updates: There has been extensive media coverage of the MCPL board vote to move to SCLS, and feedback to Marathon County supervisors. As a result, at their 2/15/2021 meeting, the MCPL board moved to request DPI to attend a future meeting and address the concerns raised by the public and is requesting a delay to holding a public hearing. They want an opportunity – possibly even up to a year – to “get their message” out to the public to counter what they feel to be falsehoods or other claims out in the public.

Erica shared the information she received from IFLS on the one-time cost to move to another library system. She is expecting similar numbers from Northern Waters Library System (NWLS). Those numbers will be shared with the board when they are available. Erica will continue researching information to bring to the board including: what could the cost of Marathon County leaving WLVS be to the remaining libraries across the system, including changes in membership cost in WVLS (or any loss of services, staff

functions no longer offered), what would the potential cost for all Oneida County libraries to move to neighboring systems if that is necessary, and what are the logistical implications.

Budget Review:

Motion by Steve, seconded by Patty, to approve vouchers 8 - 17 for January February 2021 for payment from the town account. All ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Steve, seconded by Patty to approve checks from the special accounts. All ayes, motion carried.

Reviewed public budget expenditures to date.

Voice recorder mini-grant proposal: motion by Patty, seconded by Kathleen, to approve the purchase of 2 voice recorders to support the Three Lakes Genealogical Society oral history project. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

- Library services during COVID-19:

Library services continue as status quo. Two staff will be fully vaccinated by early March, so will consider revising staff work schedules to rotate vaccinated staff back to front desk on a regular basis in April. We will still be covering work usually done by volunteers (especially shelving and book covering). We may consider bringing some volunteers back as vaccination becomes more widespread in the area.

- 2021 Candidate Forum:

School board: Randy Ingram is not seeking re-election. Mike Kwaterski is an incumbent and Josh Kral will run as a new candidate. Town board: all three incumbents are running unopposed.

Still not safe to hold an in-person debate. Are there options for submitting a recorded statement?

Election is April 6. Responses would need to be posted Week of March 22. Ann will contact the current registered candidates to request they participate.

New Business:

- Review/approve 2020 annual report:

Motion by Patty, seconded by Dan to approve the 2020 annual report as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

- Review/approve 2020 annual report statement of system effectiveness:

- Motion by Patty, seconded by Kathleen to approve the 2020 annual report statement of system effectiveness. All ayes, motion carried.

Concerns and comments from trustees:

Future agenda items:

Comments from citizens: None

Next Meeting: Regular meeting March 16, 2021, 4:30 pm in the lower level of the library and/or via video/teleconference.

There being no further business, Dianna moved to adjourn, seconded by Kathleen. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Erica Brewster, Director