

BROOME COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session Minutes

March 3, 2016

Members Present: Nancy Abashian, Connie Barnes, Margaret Coffey, Cheryl Ebert, Laura Evans, Jesse Katen, Margaret Shiel, Wendy Stewart

Also Present: Director Lisa Wise, County Attorney Peter DeWind

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at by President Jesse Katen at 8:31.

Public Comments: None

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Minutes of Last Board Meeting: Minutes of February 4, 2016 regular Board meeting approved on a motion by M. Coffey and seconded by M. Shiel.

Appointments and Resignations: None

REPORTS:

Director's Report:

- Will Manvell who's coordinated the annual daVinci Art Show for many years is no longer able to do so. He knows of someone who may be able to do it in 2017. Discussion of who might be able to coordinate one this year.
- Test of generator to occur in April to see which rooms the generator will power in the case of electrical failure. Everything on the fire code violation list in compliance except carbon monoxide monitors in the building but waiting back for a quote from Simplex.
- Clarification: Makers' Room project will go ahead, but without 3-D printer.
- Discussion of how library staffing might be affected by minimum wage increases and how best to present our request to County and State for an increased operating budget in order to raise wages. CSEA contract runs until 2019 with no raises scheduled until 2017.

Board President's Report:

- J. Katen and L. Wise met with Senator Akshar and Assemblywoman Lupardo two weeks ago regarding library funding at the state level. Lupardo advised that the Governor's philosophy on tax caps is that municipalities etc. will be forced to merge/consolidate. Since NYS guarantees a certain level of funding to library

systems, Four County Library System could sue or ask Attorney General to look into it.

- J. Katen met with Debra Morello of SUNY Broome about the Big Read grant. It has been submitted, with results expected in April. Discussion of our options in light of fact that SUNY Broome has secured funding to make Carnegie library into a culinary school. J. Katen and L. Wise will meet with Debbie Preston or John Bernardo of Broome County Executive's Office to discuss BCPL funding. (Update 3/11: a meeting has been set for 3/24).
- 4CLS: continued need for clarification as 4CLS has hired two new people to do the cataloguing that S. Bachman had communicated would now be outsourced. Andrea Tillinghast, Director of Your Home Public Library, reports that her board is interested in working with BCPL, given our shared concerns.
  - inquiries into Bookmobile funding are ongoing. Jesse and Lisa will schedule a meeting with Donna Lupardo with our agenda items, along with Johnson City, to talk more about meeting with the Attorney General.
- Community Foundation: we will get quarterly reports. Down to \$9,511.46. \$433 was the annual fee, so really down 1.6%, in line with market. We will get new balance in April. L. Wise will ask John Bernardo to come to our April meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Report: The Board thanked L. Wise for preparing this excellent report, shared with Donna Lupardo's office. C. Ebert moved to accept the report and W. Stewart seconded.

#### Contracts:

- Literacy Volunteers: Discussion of considering renewal of contract next year, rather than signing for three years: L. Wise will draft a letter to alert LV's Board of a discrepancy between LV's contract with BCPL and those of others. L. Evans pointed out that other libraries don't charge any rent for literacy volunteers. Contract approved on a motion by C. Barnes and seconded by C. Ebert.
- Emergency Services: Contract approved on a motion by M. Shiel, seconded by C. Barnes.
- Friends of BCPL: Contract approved on a motion by C. Ebert, seconded by N. Abashian.
- 4CLS Envisionware: Approval of this part of contract with 4CLS moved by M. Coffey, seconded by C. Barnes.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Joint Library SUNY Broome: No report.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

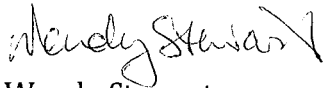
- C. Barnes: Hakan Hromek of the Binghamton Philharmonic has offered to help with the garden.
- N. Abashian: VP for Student Affairs with the Student Association at BU is working with Off Campus Transit to add a stop at the library during the reading/exam period.

- 5-year strategic plan needs reviewing: C. Ebert suggested doing that after we have had meetings about our relationship with 4CLS.
- Discussion of fundraisers other than book sales. L. Evans suggested looking into others, including a 50/50 raffle or asking a local author to name a fictional character after a donor, or donor's suggestion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: C. Ebert moved that the Board go into executive session to discuss the Director's evaluation. Seconded by W. Stewart.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m. on a motion by M. Coffey, seconded by C. Ebert.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Stewart,  
Secretary