

BROOME COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session Minutes

October 6, 2016

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

Absent: Jennifer Monroe

Also Present: Director Lisa Wise, County Attorney Peter DeWind, Librarian Sherry Kowalski

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Jesse Katen at 8:35 a.m.

Public Comments: None

Amendments to the Agenda: Community Foundation Advisory Board added

Oath of Office: C. Reome was sworn into office as Trustee

Minutes of Last Board Meeting: Approved on a motion by C. Ebert, seconded by L. Evans

Appointments and Resignations: Kimberly Smey was appointed as Senior Library Clerk and Cara Crisanti as Library Clerk

REPORTS:

Board President:

- J. Katen: Need to change composition of the Community Foundation Broome County Public Library Development Fund Advisory Committee with C. Reome replacing Lisa Kost. All trustees present signed.

Director:

- L. Wise reminds us to attend Oct 18 budget meeting
- Very successful staff training yesterday, appreciated by staff and community members in attendance
- Discussion of *LA Times* article re: libraries and homelessness
- DaVinci Art Show may return next year
- New purchasing of books via a vendor has begun through Ingram rather than 4CLS

Nominating Committee: BCPL officers asked to advise C. Ebert before November meeting if *not* continuing in office

NEW BUSINESS:

Information Services Overview: by S. Kowalski, Librarian III

- Discussion of the many valued contributions of the Friends of the Library, including paying for the AtoZ databases (\$7200) and funding ongoing programs such as various craft and creativity workshops, programs, and clubs, yoga, photography, beading. The Friends pay for many instructor fees and materials, enabling free admission to the public. The Hungry Ear program is now in its ninth year, BU hosts the Binghamton Poetry Project. A. Wade volunteered to make up a brochure including the monthly calendar of offerings.
- Trends dealing with Technology:
 - With increasing use of smartphones and tablets, library staff are providing support and education of patrons using a desktop and mouse. Discussion of whether to get wireless printers that patrons' laptops could connect with.
 - Library staff answer many reference questions on a wide range of topics, including medical information and employment-searching, and provide education in evaluating websites for credibility. It was noted that as Workforce Development decreases, more patrons increasingly turn to BCPL Information Services, which puts a strain on library staff.
 - S. Kowalski has added social media management to her duties, creating posts and events for 2000 Facebook followers, 1068 Twitter followers
 - Hoopla continues very popular with 243 registrations in August and 462 in September.
 - EBooks are decreasing in popularity and Audiobooks increasing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- J Katen pushing to get a section of English 110 offered here at library in Fall 2017.
- Big Read:
 - L Wise: Big Read going ahead, Librarian Tim Bridgman organizing reading of four books, including *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
 - W. Stewart: BPP Coordinator Clara Barnhart is interested in having her Veterans Poetry Group involved in The Big Read

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Stewart,
Secretary