

## **Rensselaerville Library Board Meeting Minutes: June 21, 2022**

Present: Robert Pondiscio (President), Hans Soderquist (Vice-President), Annemarie Martinez (Treasurer), Gus Anagnopoulos, Tracy Bensen, Judy Crilley, Jerry Finin, Donna Kropp, Paul Ventura, Heidi Carle (Library Director)  
Excused: Joe Frisino (Secretary)

Absent:

Public Attendees: Linda Styer (Past-President; Chair, Nominating Committee)

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Due the ongoing pandemic the meeting was held both online and in-person. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

### **President's Report**

Robert recognized Tracy and Gus for their hard work and success of the Cocktail Party. He reported on a meeting with Greenville CSD Superintendent Michael Bennett who is receptive to working with us on future programming. He may be a potential Board Trustee nominee. Robert will continue outreach efforts when he meets with Town Supervisor John Dolce later this month.

### **Secretary's Report**

Donna K made a motion to accept the May 2022 Board meeting minutes. Gus seconded. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Annemarie M presented a summary of the May financial reports.

Gus A made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Tracy B seconded. Motion carried.

### **Finance Committee**

FY2023 Construction Grant: Annemarie M reported that she spoke with GNH Lumber owner, John Ingalls, about donating materials for the roof rehabilitation project. He agreed to make a cash donation to cover the all or part of the cost of supplies if the contractor buys the roofing materials from GNH.

Donna K made a motion to accept the Finance Committee report. Gus A seconded. Motion carried.

### **Nominating Committee**

Linda Styer explained the chart of terms created to stagger the number of Board Trustees potentially rotating off the Board in any given year. Trustees whose terms are up in September have been asked to re-up and to send their responses in writing to Linda. The Nominating Committee is made up of former trustees: Linda (chair), Paul Kelly, Diana Frangos, and Tim Lippert. Current Trustees have been asked to submit names and contact information to Linda by email. Nominees will be contacted and invited to attend the August Board meeting.

Tracy B made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee report. Gus A seconded. Motion carried.

### **Fundraising Committee**

Block Party: Paul reported on the division of duties between the RVFD and the Library and explained how the event would be organized. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteers to be Team Leaders and workers for different components of the event. The Library is looking for musicians to perform. Bill Benson has volunteered to do the cooking (possibly at Conkling Hall) and the RVFD is looking for a pig roast vendor.

Lawn Party: Donna reported that the Schragger landlord authorization has been secured. Donna and Judy will contact Susan for the Lawn Party file and meet later in the month to work on event details.

Judy C made a motion to approve the Fundraising Committee report. Hans S seconded. Motion carried.

### **Building and Grounds Committee**

Property Line: The title company has completed its title search for the 3 properties (1 Blum and 2 Library). Hans will contact Santo to discuss the title search.

Fire Protection System: Jerry received a bid from a fire protection engineering firm to conduct an engineering study upon which to base the type of protection system is needed for the Library. He will contact fire protection system installers next to see if an engineering survey is necessary, and if not, request bids.

First Floor Rehabilitation: Jerry has discussed the project with a structural engineer, Lance Manus. Manus' conclusion was that the two buildings that make up the Library are structurally sound and that his only recommendation would be the installation of one additional piling in the basement. Jerry will meet with another engineer later in the week for a second opinion.

Donna K made a motion to approve the building committee report. Gus A seconded. Motion carried.

### **Development Committee**

The Development Committee did not meet this month.

### **Strategic Planning Committee**

The Strategic Planning Committee did not meet this month.

### **Director's Report**

Heidi C reported that she was ill with Covid in early June but is recovering. Albany County is at medium risk level for Covid. The Library is operating at full service levels. Items are being added to our "Library of Things" and the Library's Gift Shop in anticipation of summer visits. Attendance is up slightly and circulation is down slightly. Summer Reading Program begins June 28. Final reports have been submitted for two of the three current construction aid grants. Katie delivered a baby girl, Briellen Joyce, on June 3.

Annemarie asked about Library programming and attendance. Discussion ensued about the types of programs to offer, who to target, and how the Library Director can focus on programming when her workload is already overburdened. It was agreed that the topic merited further discussion at a future meeting and time.

Gus A made a motion to accept the Director's Report. Judy seconded. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

By-Laws: Robert P held up the by-laws for discussion. There were no comments. The by-laws will be put to a vote at the Board's July meeting.

Annex: Jerry F reported that there is progress being made on a sub-lease of the Public Safety Building. It is currently in the hands of the Albany County Sheriff's lawyer. Both the Sheriff and the Town Board appear to be very positive about this project. Robert P and Heidi C toured the facility and it was agreed among the trustees that a thorough study of how the space will be used, staffed, and funded will need to be done soon.

Jerry F also informed the Board that Fire Department would like to tour the Library to help make firefighters familiar with the interior to them be better prepared in the event of a fire.

### **New Business**

Gus proposed organizing a meeting of the directors of all the Rensselaerville non-profits and forming a Leadership Council. He will plan it for the fall.

**Adjourn**

Donna K made a motion to adjourn. Gus A seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

The next meeting of the Rensselaerville Library Board of Trustees will be on Tuesday, July 19, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Frisino