

Saugerties Public Library
Regular Board Meeting
Date: January 9, 2025

Present: Trustees Charlotte Herscher, Nina Schmidbaur, Timothy Scott, Julie Misiano, Robert Irizarry, Ken Goldberg, Erin Poll, Rebecca Lang

Excused: Yosefa Karchmar, Paul Vanbenschoten, Teresa Giordano

Staff: Director Jennifer Russell

Public Attendees: Ray Rebholz

Meeting called to order at 6:03 PM by Board President Tim Scott

Public Comment: N/A

Friends of Library: Next meeting is January 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM. Will begin to work on preparations for the Street Fair

Unfinished Business:

- N/A

New Business:

1. **Sunshine Fund:** Board members were willing to contribute \$10 each. Money will be collected by Julie Misiano and used towards mutually agreed upon expenses such as recognizing retirees or other forms of well wishes.
2. **Library Advocacy Day:** sign up for transportation if interested
3. **Board Retreat:** these have been held by past Saugerties boards. Ken Goldberg, both past and current trustee, described the one he attended. It was during a time that there were many decisions to make about the new building, after the bond passed. The MHLS Assistant Director, now Executive Director, Rebecca, facilitated the retreat. She came to the library and led several workshops designed to help identify personality traits and personal values, which trustees found helped them to reach conclusions that had previously been issues of contention. So in terms of us planning a retreat, we would have to first establish a goal. The tentative decision is that without an issue that needs to be resolved, we would be more interested in a retreat in the form of a social gathering of some kind with some conversation prompts about ourselves and the library.
4. There is a patron who wants to ensure physical books remain available and up to date, and has written several letters to the Director. Her most recent letter requested that the ratio of physical books to e-books should be 1:1. Despite physical books still being ordered, the books that interest her are primarily available as e-books through the MHLS system. The Director will look into having the books that interest her

ordered from another library system for her use as needed. She will make this patron aware that this is possible. She will also inform the patron that the system subscribes to e-book procurers that have thousands and thousands of e-books available, preventing the purchasing at a 1:1 ratio.

Secretary's Report:

Motion by Tim Scott and *Seconded* by Charlotte Herscher to approve the minutes as written. Motion passes unanimously with Nina Schmidbaur abstaining, as she did not attend last month.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 22,776.78 made by Charlotte Herscher seconded by Julie Misiano Passes unanimously

Director's Report: Please see the report included in the Meeting Packet.

- Has been seeking participants for the "Books as Art" project which has been well received in previous years. This year's recycled books are old encyclopedias
- Provided the accountant with the information for staff raises after the annual evaluations were complete.
- Attended the MHLS meeting
- Is exploring the possibility of having a theater event

Committee Reports:

Finance: Did not meet

Treasurer let us know that the 2024 budget was balanced

Next meeting: January 13, 25 at 6PM

Personnel/Policy: met on December 17, 24

1. Circulation Policy review and edit
Tim Scott makes a motion to adopt the circulation policy as amended. Seconded by Julie Misiano. Passes unanimously.
2. Parking Lot policy draft: Jenn will send a message to other library Directors who have instituted a policy to see what their experience has been regarding putting the policy to a procedure and then action. Do they use warnings and/or towing of the cars of drivers in violation of the policy? Will continue to explore what the board wants to include and exclude in the policy. Will be kept as a draft until further information and additional board members are present.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: January 15, 2025 at 6PM

Facilities:

Did not meet

Next meeting: January 21, 25 at 6 PM

Outreach:

Did not meet

Next meeting: at 5:30 PM

Friends Liaison:

N/A

Motion to adjourn at 7:27 PM by Tim Sott ;
Seconded by Charlotte Herscher

Passes unanimously.

Submitted by Julie Misiano

Next meeting: February 13, 2025 at 6PM
Social Time at 5:30 PM for those able to attend