

Broome Country Public Library
Board of Trustees
Regular Session Meeting Minutes – 10.11.21

Members Present: Jeffrey Boisvert, Peter DeWind, Jennifer Embree, Charmian Foster, Sarah Glose, JoAnne Hanrahan, Jill Kissick-Castro, Kate Miller-Corcoran, Emily Wall

Absent: Katie Bowers

Also Present: Josias Bartram, Jennifer Church, Jennifer Corby, Patrick Dewing, Laura Haynes, Sherry Kowalski

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by J. Hanrahan at 5:30pm.

Public Comments: None

Amendments to the Agenda: None

Minutes of Last Board Meeting: Motion to approve minutes made by E. Wall; seconded by C. Foster. Approved unanimously.

Appointments and Resignations: Termination of the part-time custodian. Motion to accept the termination by S. Glose, seconded by J. Kissick-Castro. Approved unanimously.

New Business:

Phelps Mansion Museum

Jennifer Corby, the new director of the Phelps Mansion Museum attended the board meeting to introduce herself. She is looking forward to collaboration with the library in regards to community programming, especially for events that we might not be able to host at the library itself.

Emergency Services

Patrick Dewing, the new director of Emergency Services attended the BCPL board meeting to discuss the terms of our MOU regarding the space they rent within the library. There was discussion regarding the relocation of the emergency services backup call center. Patrick will have further discussion of these plans with the library director and the previous emergency services director. The board reiterated the mutual issues, such as server locations and area access, surrounding the current occupancy and location. The MOU is to be reviewed and updated for a 1-year term, with a potential 1-year extension.

Tioga Downs Grant

J. Bartram plans to utilize this grant money to fund accessible signage, furniture, and other accessibility related updates. An organization that provides support to individuals with visual impairment has volunteered to be involved and may even use the library as a “training ground” if we can meet their accessibility standards.

Nominating Committee

J. Hanrahan will continue on the board, beginning her first full term starting in 2023. The nominating committee is allowing an extended period of time for applications, for the position previously filled by

Sara Tarricone, to bring as many potential candidates as possible. A motion to approve the resignation of S. Tarricone was made by J. Kissick-Castro and seconded by J. Boisvert. Approved unanimously. The board thanks S. Tarricone for all of her hard work during her term!

Mosaic Donation

A local teenager donated an art piece she created to Youth Services. The piece would need to be framed, a spot selected, and appropriate attribution signage created. A motion to accept the donation was made by E. Wall, seconded by J. Boisvert. Approved unanimously.

Meeting Room Policy

The updated policy will be available on the new website on launch. A motion to accept the current policy as written was made by J. Kissick-Castro and seconded by J. Boisvert. Approved unanimously.

Director's Report:

J. Bartram reported a productive finance committee meeting. Our full request has been submitted for new positions. There will be a raise for all county administrative roles and a potential bonus for all county staff.

The board feedback on L. Haynes' contribution to the current board reports was very positive.

There has been a top-level review of policies for the new website, which went into live testing today. Launch date is slated for November.

There is ongoing discussion regarding remote meeting attendance for board members, but the board is still planning on returning to hybrid meetings for the public. The Friends of the Library and Local History have purchased telecommunications technology to aid in this.

The library staff had training with a social worker in regards to homeless patrons and there is a training session planned with the peer support program as well. J. Bartram and staff members attended the New York Library Association (NYLA) conference.

Closing Comments:

There was discussion regarding past social media posts and the issue is planned to be addressed in a future meeting with an impartial mediator.

A motion to adjourn was made by K. Miller-Corcoran and seconded by J. Embree. It was approved unanimously.

Meeting ended at 7:04pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Boisvert*