

Dennis P. McHugh Piermont Library District

July 13, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes, 7:30 PM

(In person at the Library and via video)

Present: Danial Clark, Mitch Eiss, Judy Epstein, Len Hunt, Kelly Ruby, Shauna Seung, Ed Stanford

Also present: Kristine Palacios, Director; Anne O'Brien, guest.

Present via Zoom: Vicki Panetis

A quorum was present.

I. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Mitch Eiss at 7:33 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2022 meeting was made by Judy Epstein. Seconded by Len Hunt. Motion was carried unanimously.

III. PERIOD FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

IV. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kristine Palacios reviewed various programs and participation levels. Summer Reading is in full swing; so far, we have 31 kids registered.

Senator Elijah Rechlin-Melnick has contacted the Library regarding the opportunity for grant money through the CREST Grant administered by DASNY. The CREST program (Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability and Technology) is a new \$385 million addition to the state budget this year. It is a discretionary lump-sum appropriation to support "projects intended to improve the quality of life of the residents of the State of New York through investment in facilities which support arts, cultural, athletic, housing, child care, educational, parks and recreational, transportation, port development, economic development, workforce training, employment development, tourism, community

redevelopment, climate change mitigation, resiliency, environmental sustainability, and other civic activities.

Senator Reichlin-Melnick is focusing this year on projects in the environmental/sustainability category. It is a reimbursement grant, with a minimum award of \$50,000. The deadline for submitting projects for consideration is August 5th.

NY state has a law which designates that libraries as not open carry facilities. If an applicant clears the hurdles involved in obtaining a concealed carry permit, they would have to be aware of an extensive list of places where it would still be illegal for them to be armed. Gov. Hochul referred to these as "sensitive places," many of which have traditionally banned firearms or where they are already illegal under federal law. These facilities include government buildings, schools and colleges, churches, medical facilities, libraries, theaters, arenas, and stadiums. Local governments may establish additional places where lawful gun owners may not carry their legally registered firearms.

Kristine has begun uploading documents for the Auditors. They will be coming to the Library for a site visit in August.

The complete Director’s report is on file in the library.

V. TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer’s Report - June 2022			July 13, 2022 Board Meeting
			Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Approved Budget \$388,050
Operating Account +	Capital Fund Account =	Total Funds (as of 6/30)	
\$17,962.67	\$335,121.00	\$353,083.67	
June Revenue	Revenue YTD July '21-June '22	Revenue YTD July '20-June'21	Current % of budgeted revenue goal
\$1,360.00	\$390,639.44	\$381,952.75	100.7% (\$2,589 surplus)

Treasurer's Report - June 2022			July 13, 2022 Board Meeting
June Expenses	Expenses YTD July '21-June '22	Expenses YTD July '20-June '21	Current % of budgeted expenses
\$31,853.44	\$429,674.66	\$368,219.07	110%*
Upcoming Fundraising Revenue expected:			
Book Sale March 12-19	\$800	Farmer's Market	\$400/month extended through Summer
Arts and Crafts Fair April 30	\$546		

Additional Notes:

*As previously reported, YTD Expenses also include \$34,133 of non-budgeted, unforeseen items (architect fees, oral history project expenses, front brick replacement and security battery). Expenses minus these items equal \$395,541, which is 101% of budgeted expenses.

- Also as previously reported, additional expenses were incurred due to hiring of two additional staff members approved in Q1.

- Revenues were slightly over the budgeted amount by \$2,589.

- The check for \$290,000 from the tax levy for 2022 collected by the Village of Piermont was received by the library on July 13.

- We have been informed by Senator Reichlin-Melnick's office that the library has been awarded \$3,667 in discretionary state aid. The disbursement of these funds will come through RCLS later this year.

Approval of the Claim Sheet:

Motion to approve the claim sheet was made Kelly Ruby. Seconded by Danial Clark. The motion carried unanimously.

The claim sheet is on file in the library.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Kristine introduced discussion of new legislation aimed at having public meetings return to in-person meetings. Virtual attendance will still be allowed, but the conditions for virtual meetings are somewhat onerous. Specifically, if meetings are virtual (in addition to being in-person), the legislature appears to be requiring a full transcription of the entire meeting (a transcription, not just a recording) and that the transcription would have to be publicly available within a short period of time after the meeting and retained for five years.

This matter needs additional information and further discussion.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Building & Grounds

The old computer desk was dismantled and rebuilt in our new computer desks. That work is now completed. Likewise, the bookshelf in the conference room has been removed, and the main space in the room has been rearranged

Kristine discussed the possibility of purchasing curtains and a curtain track as a relatively inexpensive way to partition off the Hudson Room space. The total for this purchase would be \$690. Installation labor can be easily enough at little to no cost. There was continued discussion of that plan vs a more permanent partition. No conclusion was reached.

For the DLD Grant, we have a quote from Bullet Security for \$6,500. The bollards could also go into this request. There is a mandatory RCLS workshop at the end of July for this grant. The deadline for grant submission is September 1.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Be it resolved that Judy Epstein, previously both a president and vice president of the board, be appointed as vice president, replacing Cara

Stephanian for the remainder of this calendar year. The motion was made by Mitch Eiss. Seconded by Ed Stanford. The motion was passed unanimously.

- B.** Be it resolved that future board meetings return to a 7:00 starting time, beginning with the August meeting. The motion was made by Kelly Ruby. Seconded by Shauna Seung. The motion was passed unanimously.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Judy Epstein. Seconded by Kelly Ruby. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8: 43.