

Minutes of the David A. Howe Library
Board of Trustees Meeting
August 11, 2020

Trustees Present: Donald Comstock, President, Nic Gunning, Director, Madeleine Gasdik, Nancy Reuning, Tom Reuning, Voni Walker, Treasurer, Emily Peavey, Vice-President, Laurie Hennessy, Anne Sobeck, Secretary

Trustees Absent: Kris Green

Call to Order: President Donald Comstock called the August 11, 2020 meeting to order at 7:32am.

Discussion and Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Trustee Gasdik and seconded by Trustee Walker to approve the July 2020 minutes. The motion carried.

Director's Report

A. Statistics

-Circulation

Stats were not available at the time of the meeting.

-Program

Response to all digital platforms remains constant.

Podcast views have, again, increased significantly.

B. News from the Library

Curbside checkouts continue to do well. Browsing selections have increased with the addition of new materials and childrens items. The staff continues to fill requests via e-mail, phone and Starcat. The STLS has opened system-wide holds. The community can be assured that all deliveries are being safely quarantined. Tech requests, such as printing, photocopying and faxing are being met. The DAHL is still operating with a reduced staff and following the Quarantine Policy regarding payroll. The next stage for re-opening needs to be discussed with STLS. Director Gunning will be in touch with STLS before our next meeting on August 8th. WCS will be starting August 14th.

Director Gunning, Chairman of the Director's Advisory Council, has established a Committee of Library Directors and staff from across the Southern Tier for Diversity and Equity. They will be working to ensure our Libraries have collections and programs that are "reflective of our world".

Director Gunning submitted a letter in support of the Pink House being added to the National Register of Historic Places.

C. Department Reports

Auditorium:

The first "Movie on the Lawn" was a great success. NYLA heard about it and

included it in their Highlight Newsletter which gets distributed across the state!
Jessica is looking for an affordable inflatable screen for the DAHL.

Youth:

163 children are signed up for the Summer Reading Program.

Weekly outdoor storytimes are small but steady.

A social distancing "Fancy Tea Party" is tentatively scheduled for August 22nd.

Adult:

45 adults are signed up for the Summer Reading Program.

Niki's craft class filled up on the first day it was announced.

The first Book Club on the Library terrace took place and more have been planned.

Technology:

Ken has been working on website maintenance.

Wifi has been working well on the terrace for patrons.

A computer lab may be established in the exhibition room but so far there have been no requests to use the computers.

Building and Grounds:

Jim continues to work on inside and outside long-term projects.

The Auditorium remains dry!!!

Rick has seen to the repair of the boiler drainage issues.

Committee Reports: none

Friend's Report: none

Old Business: none

New Business: Trustee Peavey spoke about the need for some WCS students to have internet access and a quiet space to do homework and study. The students will have a "hybrid" schedule consisting of some days at school and some days at home. Those students without wifi or quiet space at home could benefit from the potential computer labs that the DAHL could offer. Many questions and concerns were raised by Board members. Much discussion followed. Trustee Peavy will talk more with the school administration and report back to the board at the next meeting.

Trustee Walker asked the Board to consider continuing the Board of Trustee Meetings on-line. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37am was made by President Comstock and seconded by Trustee Gasdik. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Sobeck

Secretary