



Rye Free Reading Room
Minutes of the Board Meeting
November 18, 2011

Attendees: Bernie Althoff, Karen Bresolin, Susan Jansen, Debra Julian, Holly Kennedy, Larry Lehman, Anthony Mason, Barbara Ormerod-Glynn, Fran Rodilosso, Jennifer Swanson, Mary Sykes, Werner Tietjen

Absent: Jim Billingsley, Julia Dailey, Doug Donohue, John Eckerson, Ann Sullivan, Mark Zwerger

Auxiliary Board: Leigh Geller

Library Staff: Director Kitty Little

City Council liaison Paula Gamache was unable to attend

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Debra Julian.

A motion to approve the minutes for the October 20 meeting was made by Karen Bresolin and seconded by Mary Sykes; approval was unanimous.

Public Comments: None

President's Report:

President Debra Julian was pleased to announce that Anthony Mason had secured songwriter Suzanne Vega to speak about her song *My Name is Luca* for the February annual meeting. There will be a board meeting directly before the annual meeting and interview. Fran Rodilosso will be hosting the trustees at his home after ward. All are asked to bring a dish.

In 2012 board meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Holly Kennedy moved and Karen Bresolin seconded the motion to approve; the vote to approve was unanimous.

The 2012 holiday schedule was presented to the board. Mary Sykes moved and Barbara Ormerod-Glynn seconded the motion to approve the 12 holidays; approval was unanimous.

Director's Report:

Director Kitty Little noted that she has been closely tracking and reporting on Annual Campaign giving. Installation of the new ceramic tiles in the Children's Room is close to completion and the goal is to reopen the room to the public officially on December 1.



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She has been working with Jim Billingsley, members of the Executive Committee, and labor lawyer Vince Tomey on items for CWA negotiations for a new multi-year contract. With Debra Julian, John Eckerson and Fran Rodilosso, she presented the library's proposed 2012 operating budget to council at a budget workshop. The packet distributed to the board includes the financial documents that were part of that presentation.

She notified the trustees about a few complaints received from parents in advance of the showing of a 2008 documentary about singer Amy Winehouse, who recently died of alcohol poisoning. Patrons have been notified in advance of the film and any parents who find the subject matter objectionable can choose not to allow their children to attend.

Finance:

Treasurer John Eckerson was unable to attend. Debra reported that there is nothing unique to report about expenditures or receipts. Karen Bresolin moved to approve the presented the financial summary for October and Fran Rodilosso seconded it; the vote to approve was unanimous.

Auxiliary Board:

Leigh Geller reported that Emma Hanratty has been asked to join the Auxiliary Board. Jen Swanson moved and Susan Jansen seconded the motion to approve her as a new member. Leigh thinks they have identified two co-chairs for next year's Novel Night. The Adult Committee will be helping with the February 12th Annual Meeting featuring Suzanne Vega.

Building & Grounds:

Werner was unable to attend the first part of the meeting. Kitty reported that the Library has received \$43k from the insurance company for damages sustained by Tropical Storm Irene. These monies will be reinstated in the lines from which they were taken. After the April 2007 flooding the Library secured Federal Flood Insurance.

Larry Lehman reported that drainage in the front of the original building is also being investigated. Water may be infiltrating despite the French drain that was installed after the 2007 flooding. Diligent measures will be taken to identify the source of water penetration and correct any problems.

Debra Julian and John Eckerson met with Mayor Doug French and Councilwoman Paula Gamache regarding the city's planned infrastructure bond. We will be preparing a list of building and grounds upgrades such as security cameras and repair of the stone wall bordering Blind Brook to be considered for inclusion in the bond offering.



Development/Fundraising

Jen Swanson reported that this year's annual campaign kicked off on October 1 and is doing relatively well. \$126,471 has been raised of the 210,000 goal with one third of our donors having contributed. A December 1 letter will be mailed to 1,600 households and an email blast will also be distributed. A press release will go out when the Children's Room reopens with another reminder to donate to the Annual Campaign.

This year the Library is participating in Mistletoe Magic the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Butterfield, the Library mascot, will also be attending. The Library will be promoting a bookmark making project; the winning entry will be the Library's bookmark for the year. Leigh again requested 100% participation from the trustees and members of the Auxiliary Board, regardless of amount.

Board members also approved the idea of direct calls to top donors who have not given by mid December.

Nominating:

Julia Dailey was unable to attend. She will provide a full report at the December meeting.

Westchester Library System (WLS):

Larry Lehman reported that so far, the county budget for WLS is flat at \$1mm for even though the expectation was that the county was going to reduce it by \$200,000. As a result, WLS will most likely keep their automated system fee for member libraries flat or minimally increased.

Old Business: None

New Business: Kitty said that staff have expressed a preference for a lunchtime holiday staff party but expressed their appreciation for the offer of an evening after-hours event. Debra will purchase lunch and dessert from a local shop.

Fran Rodilloso and Mary Sykes moved for the board to go in to an Executive Session; the motion was unanimously approved at 8:28. Bernie Althoff moved and Karen Bresolin seconded the motion to come out of Executive Session and adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. The motion was unanimous.

Presentation of Library Budget to Council: December 7 at 8 p.m.

ALL TRUSTEES ARE ASKED TO ATTEND

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room

Annual Meeting: Sunday, February 12th beginning with Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.