Utica Public Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 12, 2024

Present: Philip A. Bean, Gabriel J. Hage, Diana L. Koury, Carol W. Steele, Elizabeth Ellis, Julia A. Fernandez, Darlene Mack-Brown, Linda T. Madore, F.X. Matt III, Dominic R. Passalacqua, Helen S. Schwartz, Christopher Sagaas, Sara Billman

Excused: Evon M. Ervin, Paula J. Flisnik, Ruth A. Pugliese

Absent: Raina L. Goldbas

Philip Bean called the meeting to order.

Chris welcomed new trustee Darlene Mack-Brown to the Board.

Conflict of Interest Review

There were no conflicts of interest.

Approval of the 11/21/2024 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes.

On motion of Diana Koury and seconded by Helen Schwartz the 11/21/2024 Board Meeting Minutes were approved.

Old Business

- Chris was contacted by a New York State DRI representative requesting some additional paperwork and expects The Library's reimbursement to be forthcoming.
- The Library has not yet received the 4th quarter appropriation from Oneida County.

December 2024 Director's Report

Chris reviewed some of his activities during the last month.

- Committee letter for Chairs
- Seating new committee roster
- Julia Facilities Committee prior to January 7th (next Governance meeting)

December 2024 Financial Report

Diana Koury reviewed the December Budget Report with November 2024 data.

- Revenue is up, mostly due to the \$215,000 distribution from the investment portfolio.
- Expenses are up, due to salaries and the payments for Capital Improvement expenses to Pike Construction.

On motion of Gabe Hage and seconded by Julia Fernandez the December 2024 Budget Report was approved, with Darlene Mack-Brown abstaining.

Diana reviewed November 2024 disbursements and confirmed that all expenses \$500 and over were approved by two Board Officers prior to payment. Payroll and utilities expenses do not require prior approval.

On motion of Dominic Passalacqua and seconded by Julia Fernandez the December 2024 disbursements were unanimously approved.

New Business

- The rear parking lot is now accessible. The binder is down, new lighting has been installed on the side of the building and we are waiting on the installation of the EV charging stations. The railings for the rear moat should be in by Spring 2025. The light poles have been delayed, and the shed still has to be lifted and moved. Additional finishing touches will be completed as winter progresses and by Spring 2025.
- Chris shared the plans he and Phil Sbarra worked on for the potential future elevator project.
- Trustees and Chris engaged in a discussion regarding library policies.
- Dom noted that Mid York Library System has hired its new Director, Mandy Travis, whose first day is the first Monday in January. Chris and Lisa Matte will be setting up a meeting with Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente and the new Mid York Director.

Adjournment

On motion of Linda Madore and seconded by Diana Koury the Board meeting was adjourned.

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 16th @ 4pm. Remote Meeting Procedures will be in place for this meeting, as well as the February and March 2025 meetings.

Respectfully submitted, Sara Billman