

SOMERS LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PO Box 443
Somers, NY10589

MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2014

President Hasl called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

The members present were: Ian Carnow, Jim Hasl, Liz Mignardi, Laura Parisi, Jean Reidy, Ann Westerman and Christine Williamson-Canavan.

Paula Chamoun was absent.

Library Director Patricia Miller was also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Westerman made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on July 9, 2014 as submitted. All were in favor.

Announcements and Correspondences

WLS is doing internal system work on Saturday, August 16, which will result in the Foundation website being unavailable that day.

Mr. Hasl shared an article he read in the Wall Street Journal, "Why the Public Library Beats Amazon for Now".

Mrs. Miller received a complimentary email from resident Flo Brodley regarding the newsletter that she sends out.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Copies of the Abstract of Audited Vouchers #8, Somers Library Vouchers and Gift Fund analysis were distributed. Mrs. Westerman made a motion to approve the Abstract of Audited Vouchers #8, dated August 13, 2014 in the amount of \$90,804.69, which included voucher numbers 80288 to 80314. All were in favor.

The contractual amount spent this past month was \$40,806.95 and \$37,388 or 91% of this discretionary spending, went to the business of the Library (books, reading material, etc.). The largest expenditures were: WESTLYNX (Library service) \$28,686; Baker and Taylor Books (books and library materials) \$3,221; and Keating Electric & Technologies (wiring) \$1,877. Payroll and benefit charges were \$49,997.74. Total Library spending for all accounts was \$90,804.69.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND STAFF MEETING MINUTES

All Trustees received a copy of Mrs. Miller's Monthly Report, as well as the Staff Meeting minutes of July 22.

Benefits – The Town is no longer offering benefits through POMPCO. The new provider is NYSHIP. Staff attended presentations held at the Town House on July 30.

Girl Scout Projects – For a community “Take Action” project, 3rd Grade Girl Scout Troop #1445 wanted to beautify their community, so they planted beautiful flowers at the entrance to the Library. Leader Lynn Cukaj, Co-Leaders Wendy Reyes and Marcella Salerno, and parent Joe Caico, assisted the girls in the plantings. We thank them for their efforts and we thank Vicki DiSanto for coordinating.

Members of 8th Grade Girl Scout Troop #2971 planted a Sensory Garden as a Silver Award project. Members Sophia Slezak, Isabella Slezak and Maggie Eskridge planted fragrant flowers, created decorated ceramic stepping stones, and placed a bench outside the Children's Room. It is a beautiful job and we thank them for these efforts as well! Again, Vicki DiSanto coordinated.

Boiler – Benjamin Wagner of Travelers Risk Control, Boiler and Machinery did the annual inspection of our boilers on July 21.

Color Copier – Mrs. Miller has ordered a new Sharp color copier for staff to replace existing failing copier.

Flooring – Mrs. Miller is securing proposals to either paint the existing concrete slab or replace vinyl tiles in the staff work area as the tiles are loose and damaged by interlibrary loan bins that we receive daily. She is also securing quotes to replace carpeting in the YA/Adult computer areas.

Public Service Screens – Staff members Vicki DiSanto, Val Herman, and Mrs. Miller visited the Peekskill Library to speak to their Director about their use and layout of the public service screen. Mrs. Miller also visited Greenburgh and Ossining libraries to see their setups as well. This is in preparation for the programming needed to set up the two Rotary digital psa screens. Assistant Building Inspector Tom Tooma arranged to have Maintenance Repairman Chuck Dammeyer provide carpentry work for the psa screens. Mr. Dammeyer cut sheet rock so that A-Amp Electric could install two outlets behind the proposed screens. Then Mr. Dammeyer will reinforce the steel beams.

Smartboard – The Lucite screen that had protected the Smartboard was dropped and is now completely cracked. Mrs. Miller will find a light-weight wood replacement cover to protect it from crayon and permanent markers.

2015 Budget – Mrs. Miller met with Treasurer, Mrs. Westerman on July 18 to begin the 2015 budget preparation process.

Bylaws and Statement of Policy – On August 6, Mrs. Miller met with Vice President, Mrs. Parisi to review the current Bylaws and Statement of Policy.

New Blog – Staff member Mrs. Herman has created a new blog so that detailed information can be posted on an as-needed basis. The blog is linked from the Library website (“b” in the upper right corner).

Battle of the Books – There are two teams participating in the newly formed inter-library Battle of the Books. Practice runs will take place at the Somers Library. Mrs. Reidy suggested it might be nice to invite patrons to be in the audience.

Book Clubs – There are currently 30 Book Clubs sponsored by the Library. Mrs. Miller would like to start a Men’s Book Club. Mrs. Parisi thought it might be nice to have a Book Club Tea again.

Statistics – Statistics for reading, overdrive and circulation were distributed.

Somers Library Foundation

Plans are underway for the 5K Race/Walk on September 14. The goal of \$6,000 has been attained, but runners are needed.

Friends of the Somers Library

The Friends did not meet in August.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Budget Review – Mrs. Westerman presented the proposed 2015 budget. It was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Hasl made a motion to approve the 2015 budget recommendation as submitted. All were in favor.

Bylaws and Statement of Policy – Mrs. Parisi and Mrs. Miller met to update the Bylaws and Statement of Policy. All Trustees received a copy. The suggested changes were shared. This item will be placed on the September agenda for approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary
Somers Library Board of Trustees

cc: Library Board of Trustees
Library Director
Town Board
Town Clerk
Director of Finance
Friends of the Somers Library
Somers Library Foundation