

TUXEDO PARK LIBRARY

Minutes from the Board of Trustees Meeting

December 22, 2022

Approved

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM

Present at the Library: Trustees Bakhtiary, Davidson, Howard, Assistant Director Sandak, and Director Loomis

Remote Attendance: Tris Gates-Bonarius, 21 Lookout Road, Tuxedo Park, NY 10987. Noreen Fennell, 339 Black Oak Lane, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Minutes:

On a motion made by President Davidson and seconded by Trustee Howard, the November 9th minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

President Davidson reported that our end of the year financials are still on track and there are no unpleasant surprises. There is some excess cash in our operating accounts from the ERC program, approximately \$41,000. We appear to have enough cash on hand to carry us through to February 2023, when we receive our annual funding from the town.

Director's Report:

The Director's Report was circulated prior to the meeting. Solar powered outdoor lighting has been installed along the front walkway. Director Loomis has been working with Takeform on the lower level plaque project, and Jason Bullard provided an estimate for photographing the lower level, which was acceptable. Jason Bullard is Trustee Bullard's brother. He has done the shoot, and the eventual product will be digitally interactive, with a walk-through feature. The board considered if any conflict of interest applied to Jason and determined it did not.

President Davidson made a motion to accept the \$1,200 estimate for Jason Bullard to photograph the lower level. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Family Movie Night that followed the annual tree lighting in Tuxedo attracted 70 patrons who were provided with pizza and popcorn. The Town of Tuxedo is in the initial phases of establishing a new renewables-based electricity purchasing program for residents, small businesses and nonprofits such as the Library, and we are working with the Town to host information sessions here in the future.

There has been a soft roll out of the new user-friendly Aspen Discovery catalog feature on December 13th, which is designed to make finding and borrowing materials easier, with curated lists, personalized recommendations, and greater control of user accounts. Director Loomis offered a demonstration of the new catalog features on the big screen.

Committee Reports:

Authors' Circle: Trustee Howard reported that the event in November with author Richard Cohen was a success in terms of attendance and quality. There was reception afterwards in Howard's home.

Friends: The annual solicitation letter will be delayed this year.

New Business:

A proposed slate of officers for 2023 was offered: President: Anthony Davidson; Vice-President: Gerald Howard; Secretary: Heather Bullard. Treasurer: still vacant at this time. Trustee Fennell moved to nominate the slate and the nomination was unanimously approved. The slate will be voted on at the next Trustees Meeting.

Director Loomis discussed the need to increase the number of notaries on staff, as this has become one of the Library's most popular services. We currently have three notaries and they are not always available when patrons need their services. The discussion centered on what, if any, incentives might be offered to other staff members to undertake training and certification. Salary increases and personal days, among other incentives, were debated. Director Loomis will come back to the Board at the next meeting with more specific suggestions for incentivizing such training in a holistic career approach.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM

Respectfully submitted

Gerald Howard, Vice-President and Trustee.