

Tuxedo Park Library

Meeting Minutes Approved

October 16, 2024

The meeting started at 7:40 PM

Present: Trustees Bakhtiary, Davidson, Fennell, Howard, Director Loomis, Assistant Directory Sandak

Remote: Trustee Gates-Bonaris, 21 Lookout Road, Tuxedo Park, NY 10987

Public Comments: None

Minutes: On a motion made by President Davidson and seconded by Trustee Howard, the September 2024 minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

President Davidson reported for the treasurer and stated that the forecast for the year has remained on target for the close of the fiscal year. He is in the process of contacting the Friends of the Library to arrange for the transfer of some contributions from their account to the Library's.

Director's Report:

Director Loomis's report was circulated prior to the meeting. She reported that four LED lights in the Lower Level needed to be replaced.

Our Adult Programming Coordinator, Nicole Dillon, was awarded a \$1,000 RCLS Resilient Community Grant to fund the "Sustainable Living: From Knowledge to Action" program series. She also was awarded an Assistive Technology Mini-Grant through RCLS, which will pay for a translation device that will support library users who use a variety of languages or who are deaf or hard of hearing. The device should arrive by the end of the year.

The Library has also been selected to receive an accessibility assessment from the New York Association of Independent Living (NYAIL) this month. It is designed to identify gaps in our accessible offerings, including a digital equity program focused on technology.

The Chair Yoga and Tai Chi programs have proven to be exceptionally popular, so much so that some steps have been taken to give priority to Town residents.

The Director reported that the work being undertaken by Jeff Gundermann and S&B on the Library, funded in part by the LDC grant of \$56,822.50 is on schedule and should be completed in plenty of time before Memorial Day 2025.

The tri-fold information pamphlet regarding the upcoming vote on the increase in the Library's budget for 2025 is about to be printed.

The traffic problems in the vicinity of the Library continue. A car ran into the hedge on the north side of the grounds. The hedge was not really damaged and no one was hurt, but a police report was filed.

New Business:

President Davidson raised the question of whether we can determine just how many unique individuals avail themselves of the Library's services in any given period. Assistant Director Sandak will look into whether that particular metric can be extracted from our data.

Trustee Bakhtiary reported that plans for the Memorial Day event are proceeding on schedule and that the Committee will be having a brainstorming session on October 26th.

Authors' Circle:

Trustee Howard asked the board to give some thought to whether Susan Mulcahy and Frank DiGiacomo's PAPER OF WRECKAGE, an oral history of the New York Post's golden (or not) period of the seventies and eighties might be appropriate (or not) for an event. He knows one of the authors well.

Director Loomis will provide possible dates in early 2025 for a jazz listening party with James Kaplan, author of 3 SHADES OF BLUE.

There was a discussion of the ongoing and vexing issue of our parking lot in light of the likelihood that the building opposite the Library, which actually owns the land our lot is on, will be sold to a new owner in the near-future. The Town has so far taken no action on our request that it get involved. It seems that the matter is tangled up in the larger issue of hamlet redevelopment. The suggestion that we contact the current owners directly was once again floated.

RCLS 2025 Budget:

Director Loomis sent a link to this budget to the board for review. In respect to the Library the effect of this budget on us will be minimal. The Service fee will decrease by two dollars. The ILS fee will increase by \$620, a number that is based on our circulation (9% increase) and our electronic and physical holdings (18% increase). These costs are exclusive of the fees we pay to RCLS for their electronic services. RCLS has held three preliminary workshops on the budget.

The board was asked to vote on the RCLS Budget Resolution, as to whether the Trustees approve of the Ramapo Catskills Library System as presented. On a motion from President Davidson, seconded by Trustee Howard, the resolution was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Howard, Trustee