

BROOME COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Session

Minutes
December 3, 2009

Members present: President Margaret Coffey, Treasurer Tom Gray, Secretary Mary Jane Bolles, Ruth Levy, Cheryl Ebert, Mary Ann Thompson, Constance Barnes, Eugene Burns, Norman Sweeney

Members absent: Lanny Kipp, Karima Legette

Advisory Members

Present: Leigh Ann Scheider, Andrew Block

Advisory members

Absent: Dr. Patricia Gazda-Grace, Katie Bertrand

Also present: Director Lisa Wise, Secretary Sandra Ulbricht, County Law Peter DeWind, Union/Library President Blanche Birtch

President M. Coffey called the Library Board of Trustee meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

No Public Comments

No Amendment to the Agenda

Caroline Quidort has been appointed by the County Executive to the Library Board position being vacated by Norman Sweeney. Her appointed will be on the Legislative agenda for December 17, 2009.

Appointments & Resignations:

D. Riegal, Local History library clerk retired 11/27/09. L. Wise advised that Local History's hours of service have been reduced because of the lack of coverage. Dept. Head Gerald Smith will also be retiring which may lead to further reduction in hours of the department in January 2010. Board discussed salary paid to G. Smith as the County Historian if he should be appointed to return to that position. Further discussions will need to be addressed in a Personnel Committee meeting.

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E. Burns motioned to accept the November Minutes as presented. T. Gray seconded. With no abstentions or nays, motion carried.

Standing ReportsDirector: L. Wise

Additional information to drafted Director's Report:

1. Received an email from NYLA that the State is cutting 12.5% -- pre 1998 levels of funding. An additional 2.5 % from the original 10% cut.
2. Received notice of transfer of \$2,887 from EMS for rental of the Technical Services area for November and December.
3. L. Kipp, E. Burns and L. Wise met with budget director Marie Kalka and deputy county executive Darcy Fauci, to discuss the 2010 loss of seven positions. They gave no indication as to how the library's staffing needs will be met for 2010. Included in the hiring freeze was the resignation of the Youth Services Librarian. This will be top priority for next year to appoint someone to that position. L. Wise would like to promote from within and then hire a new Librarian I.
4. L. Wise presented Norman Sweeney with a Certification of Appreciation for his years of service to the Library Board and the community in general and our appreciation of his service to BCPL and the Friends of the Library as well doing the Book Reviews for many years before serving on the Library Board.
5. Leigh Ann Scheider also presented N. Sweeney with a citation from the County Executive.

E. Burns, as incoming Board President, encourages N. Sweeney to become a Board member Emeritus and attend on a regular basis.

Board President: M. Coffey

No report given but asked P. DeWind for the status on the approval for the solar panel study. He advised that with that part of the process done it is really contingent at this point upon NYSERDA, and New York State having money to fund NYSERDA. If there is no energy incentive for 2010 the entire

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project falls apart. The money is in place to hire the consultant for the solar study, but holding on that for the time being. L. Wise advised that the NYS Dormitory Authority money seems to be secure at this time, but bonding on that money still has to occur. L. Wise and M. Coffey thanked P. DeWind for helping while L. Wise was not available.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 2010 Board of Trustee Meeting Schedule:

R. Levy motioned to accept the meeting schedule; C. Ebert seconded. With no abstentions or nays, motion carried.

2. 2010 Holiday closings:

L. Wise advised that a staff Christmas/retirement party will be held on December 8th from 11:30 until 2:00 and the Board is welcome.

Holiday closing schedule is contractual with the exception of 5:00 p.m. closing the evening before Thanksgiving and closing December 24th at 1:00pm.

C. Ebert motioned to approve the closings as stated; C. Barnes seconded. With no abstentions or nays, motion carried.

Other items of business:

1. MA Thompson asked about security in reference to past incidents with clientele. L. Wise advised that there had been a problem with a patron not wanting to leave at 8:00 p.m. There are now four closing announcements beginning one half hour before closing. There have been no issues with the students from Columbus school this fall. L. Wise also advised that the downstairs bathroom had been vandalized, damaging one of the faucets the previous evening.
2. L. Wise advised the County Executive that the George F. Johnson portrait has been hung so that she could arrange a dedication ceremony.

On behalf of the board, Mary Jane Bolles thanked Margaret Coffey for two years of dedicated work to the Library as Board President.

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With no further business to discuss, E. Burns motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Mary Jane Bolles, Secretary