

**Skaneateles Library Association
Board of Directors
ANNUAL Meeting Minutes
Thursday January 28, 2021**

Supporting Our Mission

To inspire learning, enrich lives, and connect our community

Realizing Our Vision

To be the cultural and informational hub of a vibrant, thriving community by creating spaces and experiences that are welcoming, enriching and sustainable

Present: President Dave Hempson, Vice President Susanne Guske, Secretary Danette Davis, Treasurer Andrew Hagen, **Trustees:** Manny Arroyo, Patti Carey, Ralph DeMasi, Scott Elia, Amanda Latreille, Dave Lee, Bob Lotkowitz, Tara Lynn, Maura Molnar, Larry Palmieri, Amy Rolleri, Laurie Spencer, Katrina Zepp **Staff:** Library Director Nickie Marquis, Deanna King, Mary Beth Schwartzwalder, Alexandra Perry, Betsy Carter. **Absent:** Karen Morrissey Bedard, Dave Lee.

Members of the Public in attendance: Heather Carroll, Diane Fellerman, Dee Maguire, Fran McCormack, Michael Stebbins, Carol Young.

Call to Order: **6:31 PM EST**
Meeting was held online via Zoom.

President's Report:

President Hempson thanked Director Marquis and the library staff for navigating the pandemic this past year, implementing new procedures and policies to provide a wide range of services. He thanked the trustees for continuing to advance the library's goals and mission. We remain hopeful of a return to normal in 2021 with people back in the library and the Barrow Gallery. He gave the following summary:

2018 The Site Committee considered over 20 sites for a potential new location. After two years, the recommendation was made to pursue the Fennell Street site. During this time, we also worked with architects to consider every way that the current library could be renovated.

2019 The decision was made to build a new library to provide for the needs over the next 100 years. A decision was also made to keep and repurpose the existing building. The 49 E. Genesee Street Committee was formed to work on this

We are now working with the Town to purchase the land. At that point we would begin work on design of a library building and approval from the Zoning Board, as well as a fundraising campaign.

President Hempson stated that libraries remain important to their communities. We have received a great deal of support for the Fennell Street selection from the neighbors, seniors at the nearby apartments and residents of the neighborhood on the other side of the creek. He praised Vice President Guske for a recent presentation to the Rotary Club. At that meeting, a former library trustee commented that in the 1990s the library board had recognized the need for a new building.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Hagen gave a fiscal year financial summary. From an income and asset standpoint the library is in a good position. At the end of the fiscal year in September 2020 there was a net

income of \$53,000. The library's audit firm will do a formal presentation at an upcoming meeting.

Director's Report:

Director Marquis praised the staff for their flexibility and hard work implementing changes during the pandemic. Deanna King, communications librarian, helped with the transition to remote work and with communications with the public as pandemic regulations changed. Adult services librarian, Shelby Blatche joined the staff this year and has been wonderful working with patrons and assisting with online programs. Mary Beth Schwartzwalder, librarian for teens and kids, has done a wonderful job of filming online storytimes and creating other remote programs to interact with kids and families.

For the fiscal year of October through September, the library had 5 months of pre-pandemic statistics. Total circulation during that time, October 2019 - February 2020, was up 5%, digital download circulation was up 12%, visits to the library were up 3% and computer use was up 22%. The library was closed due to the pandemic until June when we were able to offer curbside pick-up service, and in August limited in-person visits began. From March – August 2020, downloadable use of Hoopla was up 46% and Kanopy was up 189%. Curbside pick-up on the front porch has been so popular that we will continue this service even after the pandemic ends.

Nominating Committee:

President Hempson stated that Treasurer Hagen has agreed to extend his term of service. The library by-laws allow the treasurer's term to be extended.

A motion was made by Trustee Palmieri to extend Treasurer Hagen's term.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Lotkowictz. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Trustee Elia to accept the following slate of officers: President: Dave Hempson, Vice President: Susanne Guske, Secretary: Danette Davis, Treasurer: Andrew Hagen.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Carey. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Review & Assignments:

The committee list was sent previously. President Hempson encouraged trustees to let him know of any other committees they would like to serve on. We have also added community members to assist with some committees. He thanked committee chairs and all members for their time and hard work.

Thank you to Amanda Latreille: President Hempson thanked Trustee Latreille, who will be going off the board, for her service. Her expertise in Library Science and Communications was valuable on the Long Range Planning committee for the library and for the Barrow Gallery. She assisted with the website and served as Vice President of the Barrow Gallery where she was instrumental in recruiting and interviewing candidates for the gallery director position. President Hempson showed a framed pen and ink sketch of the library which will be presented to Trustee Latreille as a thank you gift.

Adjourn Annual Meeting: 6:56 PM

Director Marquis has emailed a list of meeting dates for 2021 and these will be posted on the website.

Submitted by Danette Davis, Secretary