



OFFICERS:
President: Tara Ricard
Vice-President: Antonio Booth
Treasurer: Fred Wobrock, Jr.
Secretary: Sarah Goff

Board of Trustees
March 13, 2019

PRESENT: Antonio Booth; Matthew Finn; Sarah Goff; Evelyn Greenstein; Herb Hennings; Janet Ivory; Susan Keitel; Jackie Marino; Michael Poost; Tara Ricard; Lisa Scoons; Fred Wobrock, Jr.

EXCUSED: Jill Dugas Hughes; Yvette Terplak

UHLS Staff: Tim Burke; Jona Favreau

4:33 PM – Meeting called to order by T. Ricard, President.

I. MINUTES

F. Wobrock Jr. has a suggested change to February’s Finance Committee report to the Board in the minutes. Instead of using the current verbiage regarding the Bullet Aid check received in December 2018, he proposes the following: had UHLS received the check in January 2019, the transactions would have negated or offset one another. The group was in agreement with his suggestion.

MOTION: M. Poost moved to approve the February 2019 Minutes including the suggested change made by F. Wobrock Jr. M. Finn seconded. Unanimous.

II. DIRECTOR’S REPORT (full report attached)

T. Burke highlighted the following in his written report:

- Advocacy: Yesterday the Assembly budget was released and today the Senate released their budget – both budgets restore the Governor’s 5 million dollar cut to statewide library aid. The Senate budget also includes an additional \$1 million. Both budgets also restore the construction aid program to last year’s \$34 million. Both budgets also include \$40 million for 2020 Census activities statewide, with the Assembly budget including language specifically mentioning public libraries. Please encourage anyone you know who supports libraries to sign up for the NYLA Advocacy alerts and to contact their local Senator and Assembly member to tell them that they need to speak up for libraries because it makes a positive difference in their community.
- Capital Region Spelling Bee: The spelling bee finally took place on Tuesday, March 5. It was another great celebration of reading, literacy, educations and kids! The winning word was “polyglot” and was spelled at about 7PM. T. Burke also had the opportunity to read last week up in Glens Falls at the Battle of the Books. J. Marino asked if he’d like to rotate some of these fun responsibilities to trustees – the spelling bee is looking for a pronouncer!

- System-wide MyCard: The AAC has been working for several months on standards for a system-wide MyCard and at the last DA meeting, 24 out of the 25 represented member libraries “signed” on for these universal standards. This decision shows that the DA is continuously working together and the patrons will benefit.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Committee members reviewed the February Treasurer’s Report. F. Wobrock Jr. noted that expenses look to be much higher than they were this time last year however if you subtract out the \$86k that was paid out in January for 2018 Bullet Aid, total expenses are \$330,071.72 – which is right on par with where we should be. J. Favreau noted a \$50k transfer from the Money Market account to help cover expenses in February.

The Committee members reviewed the February Purchase Journal which had been sent out to all trustees in advance of the meeting. F. Wobrock Jr. noted that in February there were a couple disbursements worth mentioning: the fourth quarter (2018) eCommerce checks were cut to member libraries who were owed online fines paid which totaled more than \$5. F. Wobrock Jr. also noted that UHLS paid for a photocopier that was purchased and delivered in December 2018 and that February was a two payday month.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to adopt the February Treasurer’s Reports and Purchase Journals. M. Poost seconded. Unanimous.

Administration and Services Committees: T. Burke reported that the two committees were scheduled to have a joint meeting however after reviewing the award criteria in advance, there were no changes suggested, so the committee chairs decided there was no need to meet. Both committees worked hard last year to make significant changes to the award criteria and because the process went smoothly, no changes are proposed this year. These documents will be emailed out to Directors early next week.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

T. Burke is currently wrapping up his first 5 full year term on the CDLC Board and would like to serve another full term. CDLC is mandated to have one UHLS staff member or member library director on their board and traditionally that person has been the System Executive Director.

MOTION: T. Ricard moved to appoint T. Burke as the UHLS representative to the CDLC board for a second five year term. J. Ivory seconded. Unanimous.

T. Ricard announced that E. Greenstein has agreed to be the Chair of the Nominating Committee, as both J. Ivory and Y. Terplak’s seats are expiring in June. E. Greenstein will email each board member to gauge interest in a second full term.

T. Burke reported that the UHLS NYS Annual Report has been submitted to DLD and was emailed to each trustee last week for review. Other than the zip code change for J. Marino that we already received, T. Burke asked if there were any other questions or comments – none.

MOTION: M. Poost moved to accept the 2018 UHLS NYS Annual Report. A. Booth seconded. Unanimous.

VI. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- H. Hennings (GUIL): On Friday May 3 and Saturday May 4, GUIL will be hosting a Centennial Birthday Songfest for Pete Seeger. This special event will include a multi-media lecture and special performance of songs – birthday cake included as well!
- L. Scoons (BETH): Next Friday, March 22 BETH will have a ribbon cutting for their makerspace. A treasurer was hired in January.
- J. Ivory (STEP): The STEP board has a new president, who will be attending the CORE Leadership Training with Kim later this month. J. Ivory had the pleasure of participating in Advocacy Day despite the craziness happening downtown.
- S. Keitel (WSTR): WSTR board had a board retreat day with Mary and Tim last week which included a discussion of common values. Their director has announced her retirement this fall and their board will work with UHLS to fill this position. The board president has also announced that she will be resigning when the director leaves; a lot of change is on the horizon. S. Keitel has also invited Senator Neil Breslin to visit WSTR as an example of a typical rural library. She's expecting this to happen over the next couple of weeks, where she'll have the opportunity to discuss the differences between her library and those found downstate. S. Goff noted that she'd love to be included in this conversation, as she lived in NYC for 13 years.
- S. Goff (COLN): S. Goff attended an interesting program at VOOR regarding their seed library and fostering tomato seedlings. For a Monday evening (7PM), there were a lot of people attending! BETH and STEP also have seed libraries.
- L. Scoons (BETH): The Library Book by Susan Orlean is wonderful and exemplifies why libraries are important. The author lives in the Hudson Valley too!

MOTION: M. Poost moved to adjourn. H. Hennings seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 5:24 PM.

03/19/19 J. Favreau