



OFFICERS:
President: Antonio Booth
Vice-President: Susan Keitel
Treasurer: Fred Wobrock, Jr.
Secretary: Susan Keitel

**Board of Trustees
November 10, 2021**

PRESENT: Antonio Booth; Evelyn Greenstein; Yvette Terplak; Lisa Scoons; Jackie Marino; Scott Wyner; Susan Keitel; Arlene Way; Camille Engel; Marcy Savage; Jill Dugas Hughes; Anthony Repicky
Excused: Fred Wobrock, Jr.
UHLS Staff: Tim Burke; Jona Favreau

4:31 PM – Virtual meeting called to order by A. Booth, President.

I. MINUTES

MOTION: E. Greenstein moved to approve the October 13, 2021 Minutes. Y. Terplak seconded. Unanimous.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

T. Burke highlighted the following in his written report:

- American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA): Plans are coming together for the ARPA funding, which are the federal funds that will be coming to libraries between now and next June...and must be fully spent out by June 30, 2022. Applications for three projects (ADA compliant website themes, digital equity training and an awareness advertising campaign) will be submitted before Thanksgiving. S. Keitel noted that the Guardian Society would love to partner with us for training.
- NYLA Conference: At this year's conference, one of VOOR's librarians, Gail Brown, won Public Librarian of the Year Award! S. Keitel asked if the search has begun for a new director – yes, Geoff Kirkpatrick Director at BETH is chair of the search committee and they are days away from releasing the ad.
- J. Marino asked what the trustees had access to online in regards to the anti-racism training – everything is online and T. Burke will send out a follow-up email with details on how to access it. J. Dugas Hughes notes that advertising for the programming is pushed out and received and she too is surprised by the low numbers in participation.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

S. Keitel noted the cost of delivery each month (but worth it!), the eCommerce payments were issued to the member libraries and copies of the Capital Region Memories book were purchased on behalf of the libraries. Taking a look at the Treasurer's Report, it's evident that T. Burke and the staff have tightened their belts and have worked hard to keep the financials stable over the last year.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to adopt the October Treasurer's Report and Purchase Journal. T. Ricard seconded. Unanimous.

Services Committee

Y. Terplak stated that the committee members reviewed the proposed Central Library budget for 2022 and would like to present it to the full board for approval. T. Burke noted that the budget is based on flat funding from NYS. The cost of magazines increased based on OverDrive's structure and unfortunately due to this, Ancestry.com was removed from the budget. If we do get additional funds from NYS, they would go toward the eContent component of the budget.

MOTION: The Services Committee moved to approve the proposed 2022 Central Library Budget. M. Savage seconded. Unanimous.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

In advance of this meeting, the 2022 UHLS Proposed Budget was distributed to the full board along with a summary document highlighting a number of changes from the 2021 budget. Y. Terplak asked if the proposed salary increase was sustainable for the organization – yes, it is still a modest increase to help retain current staff and keep positions competitive.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to approve the proposed 2022 UHLS budget. A. Way seconded. Unanimous.

V. NEW BUSINESS

December Meeting – with no pressing issues to discuss in December, the group collectively agreed to cancel the December meeting and resume meeting in January. The January meeting will be held virtually.

VI. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- WSTR (S. Keitel): Westerlo held a bake sale on Election Day and so many people brought treats, the library made more money than it ever has! She personally sold her home in Delmar and is now using the Greenville Library – as the unique opportunity to use the Mid-Hudson Library System.
- APLM (A. Way): Albany Public Library is now holding an executive director search, as Scott has left for a position in Connecticut – stay tuned!
- ALTM (Y. Terplak): Y. Terplak previously mentioned an oral history project that has been taking place throughout the village in conjunction with the museum. The ALTM director interviewed a woman at 104 years old who then followed up their discussion with a question regarding going fine free, as she saw an article that NYPL has gone fine free. T. Burke added that UHLS is here to help start those conversations with your board if you'd like to get involved in that movement.

MOTION: M. Savage moved to adjourn. T. Ricard seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 5:31 PM.

11/29/21 J. Favreau