



OFFICERS:
President: Susan Keitel
Vice-President: Jackie Marino
Treasurer: Fred Wobrock, Jr.
Secretary: Yvette Terplak

Board of Trustees
May 10, 2023

PRESENT: Evelyn Greenstein; Lisa Scoons; Susan Keitel; Fred Wobrock, Jr.; Jackie Marino; Scott Wyner; Tara Ricard; Camille Engel; Corie Dugas; Joe Burke; Yvette Terplak; Marcy Savage

Excused: Antonio Booth; Arlene Way
UHLS Staff: Tim Burke; Jona Favreau

4:37 PM – Meeting called to order by S. Keitel, President.

I. MINUTES

MOTION: E. Greenstein moved to approve the April 12, 2023 Minutes. S. Wyner seconded. Unanimous.

II. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

T. Burke highlighted the following in his written report:

- Advocacy Update: The NYS 2024 Budget has been approved and unfortunately the statewide library aid line was flat funded at last year’s total of \$99.6 million and the public library construction fund was also flat funded from last year at \$34m.
- Vacancy Update: We have had interest and a couple of showings for a potential tenant that works with disadvantaged youth. We’ve asked a number of questions of them before we move any further in the process. T. Burke will keep the Board updated should this process move forward.
- September Board Meeting: Looking at the Board meetings for each of our member libraries, the most convenient date for the Expedition Party is September 13 – which is unfortunately the same night as our board meeting. A Doodle Poll was sent out: thank you to those of you who completed it, T. Burke will review and update with possible alternative meeting times.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominating Committee

C. Engel reported that there will be a full slate of candidates presented to the board for vote at the Annual Celebration, as the RCSC Library has recommended Debbie Carr for a first full term. Maureen Sikule and LouAnne Lundgren are serving on this community and she is thankful for their willingness to serve.

Services Committee

Y. Terplak reported that the Committee reviewed the nominees for both awards and chose the following:

Adult Program of the Year: Community Garden and Composting Program at the Brunswick Community Library
Youth & Family Program of the Year: Hogwarts Night by the WK Sanford Town Library

Administration Committee

M. Savage reported that the Committee reviewed the nominees for both the Trustee and Volunteer of the Year Awards and chose the following:

Trustee of the Year: Michael Poost, East Greenbush Community Library
Volunteer of the Year: Anne Marie Growney, WK Sanford Town Library

Finance Committee

F. Wobrock noted that the Treasurer's Report indicates we are operating in the negative but not to worry, we have enough in savings to last us until we receive state funding later this summer. The numbers didn't change too much from the previous month. Looking at the Purchase Journal, one will see about \$3,400 spent in expenditures for the Expedition, some computer equipment was purchased for the member libraries (that will be reimbursed), and a large sum was paid to the McLean Group out of older Outreach funds. The eCommerce payments were also paid to the member libraries, totaling \$4,200.

MOTION: The Finance Committee moved to adopt the April 2023 Treasurer's Report and Purchase Journal. Yvette Terplak seconded. Unanimous.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

J. Favreau shared the trustee Expedition statistics and read off the names of the member libraries that have yet to have any visitors from the UHLS Board. It would be great to share this number with the guests at our annual celebration! T. Burke shared that GUIL and ALTM are teaming up for a staff development day and will be visiting 6 Rensselaer County libraries.

S. Keitel encouraged the group to email T. Burke any trustee training ideas you'd like to have offered in order to meet the state's required minimum of 2 hours.

V. NEW BUSINESS

F. Wobrock reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the presented UHLS 2022 Reconciled Budget and didn't have any questions or comments. No questions were asked from the other board members.

S. Keitel noted that with A. Booth's term ending in June, he'll have served 10 years on the UHLS Board and has made major contributions to our member libraries over the years.

MOTION: S. Keitel moved to appoint A. Booth to Trustee Emeritus status. Y. Terplak seconded. Unanimous.

An award will be presented to him at the Annual Celebration.

VI. TRUSTEE REPORTS

- L. Scoons (BETH): With the new RLA, BETH has had many requests for assistance setting up the new card in Libby, as it's not intuitive. L. Scoons suggests maybe a simple graphic be created to be shared with member library staff with instructions for the public.
- M. Savage (COLN): On Earth Day, the COLN library launched a repair café and it was featured in a [NYT piece](#)! It's completely free and is all volunteer time.
- F. Wobrock (BRUN): The BRUN library will be soon selling bricks as a fundraiser to honor those in the community. The bricks will be placed around their garden beds and they plan on dedicating a bench to Tom Mahoney as well.
- J. Burke (ALTM): Their book sale was a great success! Their gala is about 10 days away now and is going to be a bit different this year – it has previously been held in the village hall, but is moving to the flower barn at the Altamont Fairgrounds.
- E. Greenstein (TROY): TROY is being proactive and looking to update on their policy for challenged programming, not just books.
- C. Dugas (GUIL): The Baseball in the Berkshires exhibit is being displayed throughout the library for the month of June. This is the first time the exhibit has left Massachusetts! The café is not open yet.
- S. Wyner (STEP): The library board at STEP is at a cusp – they're working together wonderfully with trustees with a wide range of expertise. It's difficult for them at this time because they have a number of capital projects they'd like to do but have a limited population to ask for donations from, as they don't necessarily want to increase their tax ask.

MOTION: M. Savage moved to adjourn. J. Burke seconded. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 PM.

07/05/23 J. Favreau