



SERVICES COMMITTEE

April 11, 2012

PRESENT: Erin Apostol, Brian Hartson, LouAnne Lundgren, Richard Naylor, Mary Muller,
Tim Burke, Heidi Fuge

EXCUSED: Celeste Steinke

3:30 PM – Meeting called to order by E. Apostol.

I. VOLUNTEER AND PROGRAM AWARDS

Committee members reviewed the nominations:

Program:

Zombie Festival (Berne)

Festival of Writers (Rensselaerville)

Consensus that the “Festival of Writers” should receive the Program of the Year Award. Committee members were impressed with the scope, sophistication and amount of work entailed in the program as well as with its value to the community. The Committee also complimented the Berne Library for the creativity of its program.

Volunteer:

Gene Damm (Albany)

Donna Gwin (Berne)

Silvia Plasse (Cheney - Hoosick Falls)

Laurie Lynn Fischer (Rensselaerville)

There was extensive discussion about the Volunteer nominations. Committee members were pleased with the quality of the nominees and their contributions to their local libraries. E. Apostol noted that even though there were only four nominations, it was nevertheless a difficult decision.

MOTION: B. Hartson moved that the Award should be given to Gene Damm. He pointed out the sustained programming for which Mr. Damm had been responsible, as well as for the versatility of the programs and the span of time covered by his work for the Friends of the Library. R. Naylor seconded. Unanimous.

II. CONSTRUCTION GRANT REPORT

T. Burke reported that we are still waiting for the results of the final DASNY review of the projects before any of the funds can be released. He is still gathering data about what other Systems are doing to develop a framework for the new 75%/25% construction grant allocations. He noted that developing the new guidelines and reviewing the grant applications will put increased decision-making responsibilities on the Services Committee.

III. LIBRARIES SEEKING VARIANCES

Due to some anomalies that showed up during the Annual Report process, there are several libraries that will be submitting variances in the near future:

- Valley Falls increased their chartered-to-serve area and must now increase their service hours to meet the Minimum Standard. T. Burke noted that although they increased their area, there was no increase in their local support and so they may not be able to afford to increase their hours. Therefore, they may need to submit a variance request.
- Watervliet needs to increase their service hours to meet the Minimum Standards - or seek a variance.
- Rensselaerville and Altamont both have more trustees than the number listed in their Charters. These libraries will need to submit variance requests. T. Burke noted that the easiest route for these libraries would be to seek a charter amendment that would give their Trustee number as a range.

4:00 PM meeting adjourned.

Heidi A. Fuge
4/12/12