

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Approved Minutes of August 27, 2021

Present: Marc Donnenfeld (President), Calandra Sheen (Vice President), Dan Mongan (Treasurer), Shari Thompson (Secretary), Sadie Stephenson, Meredith Cairns (teleconferenced, for the first part of the meeting), Lauren Nichols (Director). The meeting took place in the library's Community Room and was called to order by President Marc Donnenfeld at 9:00 am.

I. Approval of Agenda. Approved without objection but with the provision that there be an Executive Session directly after the Period for Public Expression (item XVII).

II. Approval of Minutes from July 30, 2021 Regular Meeting. Approved without objection.

III. Executive Session. See item XVIII.

IV. Financial Report. Treasurer Dan Mongan reported that "everything is all right" and that he had nothing special to discuss.

V. President's Report. President Marc Donnenfeld noted that "everything is moving along nicely" and that he had nothing special to report.

VI. Director's Report. Director Lauren Nichols reported that the library's front and side doors have been given a fresh coat of paint and that our outdoor furniture is being used. Lauren suggested that our new cafe tables and chairs be complemented with some larger, more stable bistro-style tables and chairs, and it was agreed that the additional pieces will be ordered.

VII. Secretary's Report. Secretary Shari Thompson had nothing special to report.

VIII. Trustee Reports. None of the trustees had anything special to bring up.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Friends. It was agreed that as an alternative to a sign on the library's west wall, we will explore other ways in which to visibly acknowledge the Friends Garden's major donors. It was felt that we could get ideas by seeing what other organizations (e.g., the Bronx Botanical Garden) and what the East Hampton, Montauk, and other libraries do.

B. Spanish Language Outreach. Lauren Nichols reported that the library now subscribes to *National Geographic* and some other magazines in Spanish but that some periodicals are available only online. Lauren noted that we have an immediate need for programs, in Spanish, for very young children.

X. Old Business

A. COVID Protocols

1. Adoption of the Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Prevention Policy and Plan

for compliance with the NY State HERO Act. Lauren noted that she is acting as the library's Safety Committee. Approved without objection.

B. Community Outreach. It was reported that the East Hampton Library was represented at East Hampton High School's freshman orientation and has a special space, a librarian, and after-hours programming for teens. The question then arose as to how our library might actively engage our teen population. Lauren suggested that we hire a staff member to work with teens and make this a priority, and thought that in our search for a new director (see item XVI), we're likely to find candidates with teen experience. We could offer community-service opportunities for teens and are now looking to hire a fourteen- or fifteen-year-old as a page.

C. Loan. There was a discussion about library funding and the options open to us.

D. T-shirt. Lauren showed the board sketches of t-shirts with AMAGANSETT FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY on the front, back, and sleeves, and it was unanimously agreed that the lettering should go on the back of both t-shirts (the Camperdown Elm and the library bear). The lettering will be in red, to pick up the heart in the bear design.

XI. New Business

A. Gifts and Bequest. Director Lauren Nichols reported that within the past few weeks the library has received, from the estate of Paula Trachtenburg, a gift of her personal library, and that Dmitri Potishko and Heidi Ho have made a donation of \$5,000, inspired by the work of our children's librarian, Evan Harris. A birdhouse, in the Friends Garden, has been donated by Lynne Weinlandt in celebration of her husband Jeff's birthday, and Shari and Bob Thompson have donated an antique table, now in residence in the Biography Room.

XII. Approval of Regular Bills for July. Approved without objection.

XIII. Approval of Regular Bills for August. Approved without objection.

XIV. Approval of the Personnel Report for July. Approved without objection.

XV. Approval of the Personnel Report for August. Approved without objection.

XVI. Correspondence. Director Lauren Nichols formally submitted a letter to the library board, resigning from her position as of December 3, 2021. Lauren's tenure has been absolutely stellar (in the understatement of the year), and her resignation was accepted with immeasurable sadness.

XVII. Period for Public Expression. No one from the public was present.

XVIII. Executive Session. From 9:35 until 10:10, there was an Executive Session in which the search for a successor to Director Lauren Nichols was discussed.

XIV. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am. |

Next Meeting Date: Friday, September 24, 2021, at 9:00 am.