

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Approved Minutes of March 25, 2022

Present: Marc Donnenfeld (President), Dan Mongan (Treasurer), Shari Thompson (Secretary), Sadie Stephenson, Arielle Hessler (Director). The meeting, directly following the Annual Meeting, took place in the library's Community Room and was called to order by President Marc Donnenfeld at 9:23 am.

I. Approval of Agenda. Approved without objection.

II. Approval of Minutes from February 25, 2022 Regular Meeting. Approved without objection.

III. Executive Session (as necessary). There was no need for an Executive Session.

IV. Financial Report. Treasurer Dan Mongan foresaw no substantive changes to our 2023 proposed library budget and raised the point, for the board to consider, that the projected drawdown from our capital funds, in order for us to come out even, could be reduced by raising the tax levy. Since, as Director Arielle Hessler noted, 60% of us (five trustees) need to be present in order for there to be a vote on a tax levy that would piece the tax cap—and by how much, the board will have a special meeting in another week or two. (Arielle explained that the 60% requirement is specifically related to the tax cap and tax levy, and is different from a quorum, which for us is four trustees.)

V. President's Report. President Marc Donnenfeld said that he had nothing to add to his remarks at the Annual Meeting.

VI. Director's Report. Director Arielle Hessler reported that Kimberly Parry has been hired to head our Adult and Teen departments. She will start at the library on Thursday, March 31st, for part of the day, and her first full day will be Friday, April 1st.

Arielle reported further that the Unicorn Party for children, at the library on February 26th, was very well attended---photos were featured on the front page of *The East Hampton Press*---and the library's program *Boneyarn: An Evening with Poet David Mills*, on March 19th, was mentioned in *Newsday*. *Boneyarn* is the first published book of poems about slavery in New York City.

Arielle noted that our Seed Library was launched on March 20th and has had an enthusiastic response. A card-catalogue cabinet is just inside the side entrance to the library and has vegetable, herb, and flower seeds, free for the taking, in each drawer, plus a selection of books on gardening is on display. Tomorrow (Saturday, the 26th), from 1:00 till 3:00, Amber Waves Farm educator Heather Meehan will be on hand to provide information about planning and planting a garden, and will answer questions. The entire community is welcome.

Arielle noted also that our website has been hacked but that "there is no personal or financial information stored on it that affects us or our patrons." Our domain hosting service, GoDaddy, "cleaned up the site" and "we now have increased security and a firewall to prevent future attacks."

VII. Secretary's Report. Secretary Shari Thompson and Director Arielle Hessler reported that at last Saturday's Am O'Gansett St. Patrick's Day parade, the turnout was terrific and the community spirit was wonderful. (The past two parades had been cancelled.) Rain was forecast and the sky indeed did open up, but everyone went home happy, though soaked. The "Am O'Gansett Library" contingent, banner and all, was greeted with applause and cheers.

VIII. Trustee Reports. None.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Friends. As was noted at our Annual Meeting, four tables and 12 chairs have been ordered for our Friends garden. The tables seat four but being square, can be put together to accommodate larger groups.

B. Gala. The Gala Committee will meet after this meeting.

X. Old Business

A. Review of the Mask Policy. Director Arielle Hessler reported that as of March 1st, masks have not been required in the library but that we will comply with all future local, state, and federal guidelines.

B. Motion to approve changes to the Workplace Harassment Policy. Approved without objection.

XI. New Business

A. Motion to approve the 2023 library budget. It was agreed that we will wait until the special meeting to vote on this.

B. Motion to pierce the 2023 tax cap (if necessary). It was agreed also that we will wait on this until the board has a special meeting, in another week or two. See item IV, above.

C. Motion to approve contracts with Charlie & Sons Landscapes for work in our Friends garden this season (April through November). Approved without objection.

D. Motion to approve the SCLS (Suffolk Cooperative Library System) overdrive invoice. Approved without objection.

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

XIII. Approval of the Personnel Report. Approved without objection.

XIV. Correspondence. None.

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

XVI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 am.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, April 29, 2022, at 9:00 am.