

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Approved Minutes of August 26, 2022

Present: Marc Donnenfeld (President), Calandra Sheen (Vice President), Dan Mongan (Treasurer), Shari Thompson (Secretary), Sadie Stephenson, Lynne Weinlandt, Arielle Hessler (Director). Also present, at the beginning of the meeting: Meredith Cairns (teleconferenced) and Kevin Verbesey, Director, Suffolk Cooperative Library System. The meeting took place in the library's Community Room and was called to order by President Marc Donnenfeld at 9:05 am.

I. Approval of Agenda. Approved without objection but with the provisions that New Business (item XI) come after the Approval of Minutes and that there be an Executive Session after Committee Reports (item IX).

II. Approval of Minutes from July 29, 2022 Regular Meeting. Approved without objection.

III. New Business

A. Board Training with Kevin Verbesey. Kevin reviewed those sections of the *Handbook for Library Trustees of New State (most recent edition, 2018)* that he thinks are most relevant to us as trustees, answered our questions, and noted that as of January 2023, all New York State library trustees will be legally required to get two hours of trustee training every year. This can be done in person or online; "there will be a wide range of opportunities."

IV. Financial Report. Treasurer Dan Mongan reported that we are where we should be.

V. President's Report. President Marc Donnenfeld noted that the library's Summer Open Evening on Thursday, August 18th, was "a smashing success" and thanked Dan Mongan for taking the lead in putting it together and Director Arielle Hessler and the library staff for their participation and help.

VI. Director's Report. Director Arielle Hessler reported that our five new computers, on the second floor, are now working and that 11 photos, dating from the 1920s, that we have recently purchased and that are believed to be of the Green Oak Pharmacy on Main Street, east of the library, have been enlarged and are on display in the Community Room. Our programs for children, especially the Flower Fairy Parade this past Wednesday, have been highly popular, and stories in last week's *East Hampton Star* featured Kimberly Parry, our Adult and Teen Services Librarian, and a temporary exhibition (until Labor Day) of "Trees at Sunset," a landscape painted by Renwick Taylor in 1931. Arielle noted that a team of five Amagansett School sixth graders ("the Mystery Children") represented our library at this summer's county-wide Battle of the Books competition, which began in June and ended on Saturday, August 13th. This was the first time we've been able to compete in person, and although our team did not place, they did very well.

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

VIII. Trustee Reports. None.

IX. Committee Reports.

A. It was agreed that Lynn Weinlandt, Meredith Cairns, and Shari Thompson will meet with Director Arielle Hessler to draft a policy statement, which they will bring to the board, as a first step in formalizing our Friends Committee.

B. Gala

1. Summer Open Evening Report. Dan Mongan and Director Arielle Hessler reported that on August 18th, from 6:00 to 8:00, some 100 members of the community came to the library, enjoyed refreshments and "wonderful" sitar music, met and mingled with one another, and after closing time, lingered. In appreciation of their generous contributions to, and support of, the library, Michael Cinque and Charlie & Sons Landscapers were thanked and presented with certificates of appreciation. Dan and the board thanked Arielle and the library staff for helping to organize the open house, for being at the library after hours on the 18th, and for all they did to make the evening so successful.

X. Executive Session. From 11:15 to 11:29 there was an Executive Session, in which Director Arielle Hessler was included, to discuss a personnel matter.

XI. Old Business. None.

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

XIII. Approval of the Personnel Report. Approved without objection. Director Arielle Hessler noted (see Director's Report) that Juliana Vargas, who had been hired as a clerk for the summer, left as of August 20th and has been "of exceptional help." Arielle will consider the library's staffing needs and will report to the board.

XIV. Correspondence. It was noted that the board received a letter from Dan Mongan.

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

XVI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, September 30, 2022, at 9:00 am.