

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Approved Minutes of May 19, 2023

Present: Marc Donnenfeld (President), Calandra Sheen (Vice President), Dan Mongan (Treasurer), Shari Thompson (Secretary), Barbara Hill, Linda MaCracken. Sadie Stephenson, Arielle Hessler (Director). Also present: 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.

I. Approval of Agenda. Approved by unanimous consent, with the provision that there might or might not be a need for an Executive Session.

II. Approval of Minutes from April 28, 2023 Regular Meeting. Approved, as amended, by unanimous consent.

III. Financial Report. Treasurer Dan Mongan noted that there is some "head room" between our budget for the year and our expenses thus far.

IV. President's Report. President Marc Donnenfeld congratulated our library, and the trustees, on the results of the 2024 library budget vote, this past Tuesday, in which our budget was overwhelmingly approved, 89 to 4. Marc noted that "the numbers show we're held in high regard."

V. Director's Report. Director Arielle Hessler reviewed her report with the trustees, noting especially that she and Kimberly Parry, our Head of Adult and Teen Services, are filling in for Daaimah Lyon, our Children's Services Coordinator while Daaimah is on leave. Off-site storytimes will resume when Daaimah returns, and we will be bringing back live music programs this summer. Arielle noted also that we have not yet had any applicants for the position of part-time Local History Librarian.

This summer, our library is hosting a series of three presentations, on Fridays at 5:30, featuring women-run nonprofits in the area: Amber Waves (June 16th), the South Fork Bakery (July 21st), and The Retreat (August 18th). Our library staff and trustees are invited to walk in the Hamptons Pride Parade in East Hampton on Saturday, June 3rd; the lineup will be at 11:00, at Pondview Lane and Guild Hall, and the parade will start at noon. And on Friday, July 7th, at 5:00, our library will have an Open Evening, as we did most successfully last summer, with music and refreshments.

Seven new English-language learning books for speakers of Spanish have been added to our reference collection, and patrons can make copies of pages, free of charge, to take home. Finally, Arielle reported that the OverDrive app has been discontinued and that library patrons are being encouraged to switch to the newer Libby app, which will give the same access to ebooks and audiobooks.

VI. Executive Session. From 9:15 to 10:05 there was an Executive Session, in which Arielle Hessler and Kevin Verbesey were included, for the purposes of considering potential honorees at our Open Evening and for discussing a personnel matter. After the Executive Session, Marc

Donnenfeld proposed, and Dan Mongan seconded, a resolution as follows: "Resolved, that the Board of Trustees approve up to a 90-day unpaid leave of absence for the Children's Librarian Trainee, to begin after her time-off benefits have been used up. The library will cover the employee share of health insurance." The resolution was approved by unanimous consent.

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

VIII. Trustee Reports. Dan Mongan reported that he had the sense that the library trustees' letter to the Town Board re: 555 was well received but that there has been no update on 555 as yet.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Finance. Dan Mongan reported that the Finance Committee has met and will report on the substance of their meeting at our June board meeting.

B. Policy. Sadie Stephenson reported that the Policy Committee has met and has devised a statement of purpose, and is in process of discussing approaches to drafting a long-range plan, including a leave-of-absence policy, that will succeed our long-range plan of 2019. The committee will make a presentation at our June board meeting.

1. The committee selected Sadie Stephenson as Chair, and drafted a statement of purpose according to board committee guidelines. Approved by unanimous consent.

X. Old Business. None.

XI. New Business

A. Motion for the Amagansett Free Library Board of Trustees to approve (i.e., accept) the results of the May 16, 2023 vote for the 2024 library budget: 89 Yes, 4 No. Approved by unanimous consent.

XII. Approval of Regular Bills for May. Approved by unanimous consent.

XIII. Approval of the Personnel Report. Approved by unanimous consent.

XIV. Correspondence. None.

XV. Period for Public Expression. None.

XVI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25, after which the trustees remained for a training session with Kevin Verbesey, as required every year by New York State.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, June 23, 2023, at 9:00 am