

SCHENECTADY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
September 28, 2023

PRESENT: Cheryl Cufari, David Fronk, Sharon Jordan, Julie McDonnell, Jude McQueen, Carmel Patrick, Bernice Rivera, Brenda Schworm, Angela Tatem, Madelyn Thorne, Tina Chericoni Versaci, Christine Witkowski

**ABSENT AND
EXCUSED:** Steve McCutcheon

ABSENT: Randy Fine

Ex-Officio: Charity Thorne, Executive Director of Library System, Devon Hedges, Assistant Library Director; Beth DeMidio, Assistant Library Director of Operations; Janice P. Martin, Board Clerk

GUESTS: Rory Fluman, Schenectady County Manager
Kaela Wallman, Mary Ann Warner, Doug Bixler

Tina Chericoni Versaci called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for July 27, 2023
- b. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2023
- c. Approval of Expenditures – Resolution 1
- d. Acceptance of Bequest – Resolution 2

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Carmel Patrick, seconded by Sharon Jordan. Motion passed.

2024 PROPOSED OPERATING HOURS

- Charity Thorne distributed a print-out to trustees of the current and 2024 proposed hours of operation for all libraries. There would be an addition of 24 hours library-wide, which will provide the same level of access for each community. The expansion of hours will not take place until hiring/onboarding of new employees takes place in 2024. The idea is to increase engagement by having Adult Services and Youth Services librarians scheduled at the branches. Discussion ensued.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

- Tina Chericoni Versaci and Madelyn Thorne hosted Congressman Paul Tonko in early September. They, along with Charity Thorne, toured the Karen B. Johnson Library. Congressman Tonko is looking for ways to support the library. Madelyn Thorne thanked Charity Thorne for joining and adding her expertise in many areas of the Schenectady County Public Library.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Trustees reviewed the written report submitted by Charity Thorne.

Additionally:

- Charity Thorne announced that she would like to get to know trustees and asked them to reach out to her to set up a time to meet.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

- Madelyn Thorne attended the Friends of the Library board meeting on August 27, 2023. There has been a big turnover in board members over the past several years. There was a discussion about bringing back the Monday Noon Programs sponsored by the Friends.
- Volunteers are needed to work the fall book sale being held on September 30 and October 1. People are needed for set-up on Friday, working as cashiers on Saturday and Sunday and clean-up on Sunday.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

- Glenville Library landscaping will take place in 2024.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – None.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Cheryl Cufari announced that she is in the process of completing the Long-Range Plan Summary.

POLICY

- Need to set up next meeting date.

MVLS REPRESENTATIVE

- MVLS needs another representative from Schenectady for their board. It does not need to be a library trustee.

NEW BUSINESS

Tina Chericoni Versaci invited Rory Fluman, County Manager to say a few words.

- Rory Fluman announced that his office just finished the 2024 County budget and discussed some highlights relating to the library's budget.
- He announced that he supports the 2024 proposed hours of operation that includes an additional 24 hours library-wide.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Swanker Boardroom at the Karen B. Johnson Central Library.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session to discuss the employment of a particular individual at 6:38 p.m. on a motion by Cheryl Cufari, seconded by Sharon Jordan.

The executive meeting ended at 7:31 pm. Regular meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. on a motion by David Fronk, seconded by Sharon Jordan.