



**HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 22, 2021**

Present on Zoom Call Due to COVID-19

Lauren Casper (President), Joanna Riesman (Treasurer), Jacqueline Weitzman (Secretary), Tim Donahue, Peter Swiderski, Debbie Quinn (Director), Michele Ankuda (Friends)

Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the January 26th meeting were approved.

Day-to-Day During the Pandemic

The Library has been closed often due to bad weather, but otherwise everything is going smoothly and the Library continues to be busy.

A discussion was held during the PLDA meeting regarding re-opening plans.

Librarians are still not considered essential workers, so it is still unknown when staff will be eligible for the vaccine.

Jeanne, Mike, Juan, and Debbie created a display in the front window celebrating Black History Month. The display will be changed in early March for Women's History Month.

Personnel

As a replacement for Greg, Lori Kaen from the Briarcliff Library will be available to work up to 17 hours starting on the 27th, including every other Saturday. She is already very knowledgeable of the workings of the Library, so Debbie will give her a try.

Programming

The inaugural Read, Watch, Discuss event on James Joyce's *The Dead* on February 10th went beyond an hour with very interesting and interested participants. Joanna gave some feedback that will be helpful in crafting the next in the series on *84 Charing Cross Road* in April.

The Valentine's Day card-making workshop held on Zoom on February 11th was more adorable than Debbie had expected it to be.

Debbie met with Martha Polstein and June Wai to discuss the next generation of Stories that Speak.

Our next Book YaYa event will be on February 18th at 7pm when we will be co-hosting with the North Castle Public Library in Armonk. Myla Goldberg will discuss her book *Feast Your Eyes* with Darin Strauss, author of *The Queen of Tuesday*.

The Book Club for 4th – 6th Graders will be reading the third and final book in Marianne Malone's *Sixty-Eight Rooms* series on Tuesday, February 23rd at 3:30pm.

The second episode of *Yesteryear: Stories From Home* will be celebrated with a discussion of Patricia Ziegfeld's life at Burkeley Crest in Hastings-on-Hudson on March 10th.

On March 11th we will be hosting Karen Dukess, author of *The Last Book Party*, in conversation with Zibby Owens, host of the popular podcast, *Moms Don't Have Time To Read*.

The board engaged in a discussion about how best to sign people up for Zoom presentations.

On March 15th for Women's History Month, Barron Lerner will discuss Margaret Sanger with author and former chair of NARAL and Democratic candidate for Congress, Allison Fine. Board member Joanna Riesman will do the introductions.

Clive Irving will be talking about his book *The Last Queen* on March 18th at 7:30pm.

The Library will be co-sponsoring Race Films/Race Matters with RiverArts on Wednesday, March 24th from 7:30-9pm – a Zoom discussion about the 1933 film *Emperor Jones*. The film and short video discussions about the film will be available upon registration for screening before the discussion.

Facilities

We have still not received a bill for the bathroom plumbing work or partitions, but it must be paid by May 31st.

Debbie listed repairs that are needed at the Library, including two sofas need reupholstering, the carpeting in the Barnes Room needs replacing, carpeting

throughout needs replacing, and we are in desperate need of a new phone system. Ours has become obsolete and replacement parts for repairs no longer exist. Funding for this work was discussed.

Finances

Sue Feir is working on the annual report for the State. In addition, our long-range plan has not been updated since 2000, so we will need a continuance in order to do this work.

Sue reviewed, line by line, a preliminary budget with Debbie and Peter. The part time employees line is tricky due to closures because of the pandemic. Debbie met with Village Manager Mary Beth Murphy, who recommended that we calculate the part-time line as though we will be operating on our pre-Covid schedule. The surplus at the end of the year would then be put into a rainy day fund.

Website

The new website is scheduled to launch on March 2nd. The new Mailchimp account will need to be overseen.

Next Meeting

Our next remote meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 23rd at 4:30pm.