



**HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Approved minutes
February 6, 2023**

Present

Lauren Casper (President), Joanna Riesman (Treasurer), Jacqueline Weitzman (Secretary), Tim Donahue, Peter Swiderski, Debbie Quinn (Director), Sharon DeLevie (Friends) joined us on Zoom

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the January 5, 2023 meeting were approved.

Day-to-Day Operations

Issues with the staff computers continue. Each time they go down, WLS says they are looking into it and will let us know when they are back up. Debbie attended a Tech Committee meeting to learn what the problems are and what WLS is doing about them. The head of IT, Wilson Arana, referred to the VDI issue as a "hiccough." Debbie told him it was far greater than a hiccough and that issues with the computers are getting in the way of our day-to-day operations. Wilson is planning to visit each library in the system, though we do not have a time scheduled yet for his visit.

The disgruntled patron discussed at our previous meeting has not returned to the Library.

The Blood Drive on MLK Day was a success. NYBC's goal was 34 donors and we had 38.

We had an overflow of high school students studying for mid-terms the last week of January.

Programming

Michael Levine's presentation of *The Automat* for our Local Luminaries series was a hit. The film was terrific, the Q&A was interesting, and about 65 people attended. So many people just loved reminiscing about their Automat days. Doug Rushkoff will be the next Local Luminary to present.

The Board discussed ways we might be able to make viewing films in the Orr Room more enjoyable, ie. re-adjusting the projector so that the image is higher, making it possible for people in the audience past the first row able to see the lower half of the image in case there are sub-titles or when there's a "lower third" or ID of a talking head in a documentary.

Mike's "Keeping It Real" book club is really taking off. He had ten people discussing *Eleanor and Hick* by Susan Quinn last month. In keeping with Black History Month, they will be discussing *The Warmth of Other Suns* Friday, February 10th. It is in-person, but a regular participant is in Florida and asked Mike to send a Zoom link because he really doesn't want to miss the discussion.

Mike had Tom Lecky yesterday for a presentation and discussion about rare books. They had 33 people in attendance and Mike said it went very well.

Angie Rothing, a Certified Sleep Consultant, did a workshop for the "New Parent/Caregiver" group who meet every other Friday at 12:30. Despite the dropping temperatures, seven hardy moms and caregivers showed up and asked a lot of questions.

Kids programming:

1. Allee's Lunar New Year celebration was a great hit on Sunday, January 22nd. Some teens taught others how to play mahjong, there were crafts, and some Asian snacks. About 60 people attended.
2. Winter Art Workshop with Helen and Seva was on January 25th. Registration was good but not everyone showed up.
3. The "Teens Make Zines" group, led by Rebecca Pitts, was meeting next door as we met.
4. A Helen and Seva Valentine's themed art workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th from 4pm-4:45pm. Kids will learn about the work of Jim Dine and create a piece of artwork inspired by his style.
5. For Black History month, in coordination with Parents of Children of Color, the Library will be hosting "Celebrating Black American STEAM Heroes" Sunday, February 12th from 2pm to 3pm. They will celebrate the inventor Lonnie Johnson, architect Paul R. Williams, and designer Ann Lowe in an interactive story time and workshop.

Also for Black History Month, Jeanne and Mike will be showing *Hidden Figures* on Wednesday, February 8th and offering pizza beforehand. They had a good turnout for *Brooklyn* last month and they were very happy that they offered pizza.

Hastings Rainbow Families will be meeting in the Orr Room for an hour and a half once a month. The recently formed organization is very grateful to have the space for their meetings.

Miriam Budin stopped by to talk about the results of the Senior Survey. It seems there is a lack of communication, as many of the requests made by those who completed the survey are already offered by the Community Center and/or the Library. The suggestion by the committee is to coordinate our advertising with Parks and Rec, specifically with Anne Russak. Mike and Jeanne have been sending her flyers about the book club and films and will send a flyer for the senior art workshop scheduled for April. There was also an inquiry about contacting someone by the name of Lee Eiferman to run a writing workshop. She has worked as a screenwriter and speechwriter.

For some unknown reason, our Facebook account was shut down. We need to open a new account, but it must be linked to someone who has an active Facebook account. Debbie will ask Regina if we could use her as an account owner and then have our tech savvy volunteer, Rachel, get us back up and running.

Facilities

Bidders were up on the roof today to re-bid on the roof project. Architect Donald MacDonald, and Russ Watsky, roofing consultant, were up there with them to explain the project. They had nine contractors bidding, two of whom made bids on the Village roof two weeks ago. The deadline for the submission of a bid is Friday, February 17th. They are hoping the bid will be rewarded by Friday, March 17th. Work must be completed by June 2023. As mentioned in the minutes, rejections were sent to the contractors who bid on the job previously.

The board reviewed the use of the Barnes Room as a quiet workspace.

Debbie requested that the board review and update our current rooms policy.

Friends

Michele bought a new arrow for the Book Shop along with a timer, so we no longer need to unplug it each night.

Personnel

Regina has been out sick (using vacation time) since January 21st. She will be back tomorrow. Greg and Donna have been filling in for her and others who have been out.

Debbie is in the process of preparing our budget for 2023-2024. Sue and Peter have been assisting her.

The Board met in executive session to discuss salaries for the new budget.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting has been scheduled for March 13th at 4:30pm.