



## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

November 13, 2023

### **Present**

Lauren Casper (President), Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman (Secretary), Peter Swiderski, Tim Donahue, Lauren Links, Debbie Quinn (Director), Joanna Riesman (Friends)

### **Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the October 16th meeting were approved.

### **Day-to-Day Operations**

Rose Utchel is retiring after twenty years as clerk. Her last day will be Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Debbie is working to find someone good as her replacement. Debbie will hold an intimate retirement party on the 30<sup>th</sup> and toast to her retirement.

Early Voting went off with hardly a glitch.

A memorial for Ed Young is being arranged by his daughters and friends for Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Yonkers Riverfront Library. All are invited.

### **Programming**

The Senior Art Workshop was Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Only five people attended, but bad weather could have contributed to the low turnout.

The Wednesday matinee last week of *Trains, Planes, and Automobiles* also had low turnout. We are going to skip the program for December and try again in January.

Jessie Kanzer, our first Local Luminary of the season, gave her book talk on Thursday, Nov. 9. Twenty-two people attended. She was a very good presenter, read a few passages from her book, *Unlocking Your Inner Zelensky*, and explained her connection to Zelensky. In addition, she sold and signed books that were brought by Sara Davidson Johns of Picture Book in Dobbs.

The Keeping It Real book club met last Friday, Nov. 10, to discuss the second half of *King*. Mike had seven people attend, all of whom had different perspectives about MLK, so they had a really lively, good discussion.

Jeanne held her Linus Blanket program yesterday with a crowd of about twenty-five.

Allee and Debbie went to Battle of the Books on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. The team made it to the semifinals and only lost by three points. It was a great, chaotic, fun day!

Allee presented her website, The Westchester LGBTQ+ History Project <http://westchesterlgbtqhistoryproject.com/> to middle grades and teens/parents on Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. It was an extremely successful program. She projected the website on the screen, described her goals, and had a trivia contest that really engaged the audience of about twenty-five. The kids who attended really enjoyed the trivia and asked some great questions. Allee would like to present a similar program to other WLS member libraries (not as the Youth Services Librarian from HOH). Debbie reached out to Terry Kirchner, WLS executive director, and he not only sent a WLS-wide email to directors but he connected Allee with a few other organizations that he thought would be interested.

Allee, along with Aarthi, and a few other families had a great Diwali celebration in the Orr Room on Saturday. We bought snacks at an Indian grocer, Allee ordered samosas from Raasa, they had two crafts, and a friend of Aarthi's demonstrated a dance that was a cross between traditional and Bollywood. Everyone loved it and they are game to do it again next year perhaps with a henna artist. We got a lovely thank you for providing the space and huge thank you to Allee for going above and beyond—again.

Dashiell Jordan of the Newington-Cropsey Foundation will present on the Hudson River Painters on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

Ben Goldfarb will talk about his book, *Crossings*, on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Pascale Le Draoulec will present her talk, "Eat Her Words: Food, Farmers & Friends," on Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### **Facilities**

The touchless flusher in the men's bathroom broke on Saturday. Debbie called the plumber, but he is unsure if he can get here this week. Debbie asked him to disconnect the touchless flusher due to their unreliability and replace it with a mechanical handle.

### **Friends**

The Gamut lecture series is scheduled for January and February. More details to come.

The Friends annual Giftique will be held on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. It is still to be determined if there will be a Friends' Night Only on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Lauren Casper reported that she spoke with Ed Young's daughter Antonia, and that Antonia and her sister, Ananda, are asking that memorial donations in Ed's memory be made to the Friends of the Hastings Public Library, as this was always "Ed's library." The Friends look forward to potentially commissioning a new mural for the picture book room, which will be named The Young Room in his honor.

**Next Meeting**

Our next meeting has been scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm.