



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

July 23, 2024

Approved Minutes

Present

Lauren Casper (President), Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman (Secretary), Peter Swiderski (Treasurer) Tim Donahue, Debbie Quinn (Director)

Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the May 7th meeting were approved.

Quarterly Report

Peter Swiderski gave his treasurer's report on the second quarter. We started the second quarter with a total of \$129,988.35 across the two funds. On the income side, we received a contribution of \$25.00 and enjoyed a growth in our assets of \$4,522.82. On expenditures, we spent \$1,650 on new bookshelves (taken from the Anderson Fund) and \$360 on bookkeeping (Judy's work), which is split across both funds. This left us at the end of the second quarter with \$132,526.26.

Director Quinn still has \$1,058 that should be spent out of the Anderson Fund this year. She also has \$3,792 in Memorial fund monies available for expenditure this year. The Memorial Fund monies available for expenditure this year will roll over, if unspent by the end of the year, into a permanent addition to the Memorial Fund.

Day-to-Day Operations

Early Voting went off without a glitch. Most of the poll workers have been here several times and know the drill. Being closed on Sundays required getting coverage for the whole day for both Sundays but it worked out.

On Juneteenth, we had a book display at the entrance along with zines that Allee put together, hibiscus tea and an explanation of its connection to the holiday, hibiscus

tropical punch, cut up mangoes and pineapples. Several patrons expressed their gratitude. One patron asked if we do this every day!

The Legislative Breakfast hosted by WLS took place on Wednesday, July 17th. David Imamura (District 12) attended and a representative from Nancy Barr's office (District 6), Debbie Freidman, also attended. State Assembly member Mary Jane Shimsky was registered but didn't come. Her office called later in the day to say they had goofed and apologized. Lauren Casper, Mike, Allee, Judy and Debbie were also there. Pretty low key; mingling; and making sure legislators know we appreciate what they do for libraries.

Bob McKinnon had his first Rivertowns Book Fair on Sunday, June 23rd. Other than the fact that it was 95 degrees in the shade, it was very nicely set up with about 20-25 authors. There was a steady flow of patrons, but no one stayed standing on the black top for long. The library is slotted to receive 10% of the earnings.

Programming

Ongoing programs continue: Let's Pretend, Toddler Time, Stay and Play, Mahjong, Knitting and Flor on the 3rd Friday of the month.

Looking forward to the fall, Nora Maher said she would prefer to do special programs on occasion such as balloon art and possibly puppet making. Allee will be filling in with different children's entertainers in different time slots.

The library had a table at Friday Night Pride on Warburton Avenue on June 7th which Debbie ran with the help of Allee's two wonderful high school interns. Kids could color a square for an addition to the paper quilt that is hanging in the children's area. There was a collection of picture books, juvenile, young adult and graphic books with LGBTQ+ themes. It was a very well attended event. Allee had a separate table which she, her partner, and a friend handled for her LGBTQ Westchester History Project.

Summer Reading kickoff on the last day of school, June 25th, was great. We were able to have it outdoors. Allee had 178 kids sign up that day and since then about 125 more have registered. Outside, there were lawn games, hula hoops, chalk, and ice cream or fruit pops; indoors, there were board games, crafts and music. The kids really enjoyed it, and they have loved coming in each week for their prizes.

There was a Keith Haring art workshop for grades 3-5 on June 27th. Helen and Seva ran it for about 10 kids.

Kids Ukelele lessons started on July 8th. The limit was ten kids. The instructor works at Yonkers Riverfront Library and was very good but hasn't taught ukulele to kids, so Allee helped with the management. She brings the ukuleles, and the program runs for three weeks. Mike just bought a ukulele so he asked Elsa if she would do an adult program in the fall, and it looks like it will happen.

The Throwback Thursday movie last week was “The Lego Movie” and there were about 12 attendees. Pizza was served.

Friendship Bracelet Making for ages 7 and up will happen tomorrow from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Allee will run a program for fans of a popular juvenile series, *Wings of Fire* by Tui Sutherland, featuring themed crafts, games and snacks as well as chatting about the books on Thursday, August 15th from 5:30 to 6:30 for ages 9+.

Last Sip of Summer, a mixology social hour for pre-teens and teens for ages 11+, is planned for Monday, August 19th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm featuring specialty summer drinks using teas, fruit, herbs, sodas and more.

Discovering Wildflowers, an art workshop for incoming Grades K-2 will take place on Thursday, August 22nd from 4:00pm to 4:45pm.

The Adult Summer Reading, 50 Days of Hastings: Literary (and other) works by and about those who passed this way, had a small but enthusiastic turnout for the kick-off on Monday, July 8th. Mike put together a display on the round table in front of the Circ Desk. We added a poster board next to the display with Post-its for anyone who would like to share what/who they learned about from this program. The 50th day will be Monday, August 26th. Mike has invited participants to come back for a chat and some snacks.

Keeping It Real Book Club met on Friday, June 28th and discussed *Poverty by America* by Matthew Desmond. They had a very good discussion. Mike said the hardest part was steering the group away from trying to come up with solutions to the poverty issue. This book club will resume in September.

The Seniors Wednesday matinee in June was *Rear Window*. About eight people showed up for pizza and the movie. Tomorrow will be our first screening with the new AV equipment and the movie will be *Vertigo*. Next month's feature will be *Harvey*.

Rick Dresser would like to show his film *Devout and Dangerous* about the activist Berrigan brothers on Thursday, October 3rd. He will have a Q & A at the end. The movie is 1 hour and 20 minutes.

Now that we have the new AV system, Regina is looking into having Vicky Bugbee show her film *Out of State: A Gothic Romance* which was filmed in her house in Hastings.

Flyways is a film about bird migration. Regina has been in touch with Michael Bochnik, President and Field Trip Leader of the Hudson River Audubon Society.

He will be sponsoring a Hawk Watch at Lenoir Preserve several Saturdays in October. He does them at 10:00am. He said we could invite patrons to Lenoir in the morning for the Hawk Watch and then he would come to the library and have a Q&A after *Flyways*. Saturday, October 5th is his preferred date—to be confirmed.

Allee has been coming up with excellent ideas for the Ed Young celebration being planned for early December.

Battle of the Books will take place at Ossining High School on Saturday, October 26th. Allee has a team of eight or nine 5th and 6th graders. Practices will begin in September.

Tim Donahue's brother has a book coming out, *Unbound: Unforgettable True Stories from the World of Endurance Sports*. He will be available for a program in the fall.

Tarry Hum would like to have a screening of a new film on Alzheimer's and dementia entitled *Keys Bags Words Names*. It was shown at the 92nd Street Y and had a panel discussion following it. The Senior Council of Hastings could help get the word out to the Rivertowns to people dealing with these issues. Debbie went to the first of a series, Read Alouds for Adults with Alzheimer's/Dementia at the Yonkers Riverfront Library last week. A lovely summer intern read a picture book, *Zen Shorts*, and supplied materials for a craft following it. Unfortunately, it was sparsely attended.

Facilities

Hudson Valley Audio Visual were here for three days installing the new system. They were great workers who uninstalled our existing system and installed the new equipment quietly and efficiently. Raf took our old equipment for possible use in the Village. Jeff, the sales rep, came last week and spent more than an hour with Debbie, Mike, Regina, Allee, Metha, and Raf going over each aspect of the system thoroughly. He created a step-by-step manual which Debbie laminated and put in the drawer of the AV system. The control panel lives on the wall outside the closet. We may get a plexiglass cover for it so no one starts pressing buttons when they shouldn't. Debbie will also discuss with Juan the possibility of creating a cloth cover for the new monitor.

Mary Beth copied Debbie on an email to Buddy on Friday, July 5th asking him to get in touch with PTG to have them give an estimate for caulking the windows and taking care of the exterior stucco work. Buddy came over with Lou, owner of PTG, on Friday, July 12th. They went up on the roof and Debbie showed them where the water was pouring in at the back windows. Debbie sent an email to Buddy on Friday asking if there was a proposal for the work to be done. He said they are working on it. While they were here, Debbie asked them to look at the saddle at one of the front doors, the handicap button that doesn't work and the downstairs door that had a dangerous piece of metal sticking out.

The estimate from Neal Stanger for replacing the floor tiles behind the Circ Desk

with carpet tiles is \$1,837. Knowing that this work needs to be done for safety reasons, the board suggested the funds come from the available funds in Memorial.

Many of the green vinyl chairs need to be reupholstered. They've had a good 20-year run. Debbie contacted Nicole Interiors who had done the work in the past.

Friends

The Gala was a huge success on every level: food, entertainment, weather, festive and grateful atmosphere, and a whopping \$11,000 from the Silent Auction and ticket sales. The Friends who volunteered that day were phenomenal. Under the guidance of Patty Speranza and Mary Anne Fiebach, the food was totally under control and the HHS students who were helping out were great at refilling when they could and taking empty plates/platters away when necessary, and they worked steadily during cleanup. It really was a great event and went off without any problems.

Friends membership is at 380 versus 295 last year at this time.

The Friends Used Book Sale is scheduled for September 13th – 14th. Friday night the 13th will be for members of the Friends only. The sale will be open to the general public on Saturday the 14th from 9am – 3pm.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be in September. The date is still to be determined.