



Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

Date: 02/14/2024

Location: Library Community Room

Trustees Attending in person:

Caitie Hilverman (President), Julia Black (Vice President), Dani French (Secretary), Jessica Almeleh-Frazer, Kimberly Erwin, Crystal Jeffs, Wesley Brown, Miranda Barry, Sherry Jo Williams, Elizabeth Dickey, Ryan Kelly, Maddie Meehan

Excused: Michael Grisham (Treasurer), Linda Friedner, Richard Garmise

Absent:

Staff Attending: Emily Chameides (Director)

Others Attending: Lloyd Koedding, Juan Diaz, Joe Ferris, Jim Kelly

Meeting was called to order by Caitie Hilverman at 6:03pm. She welcomed trustees and guests.

A motion to approve the January minutes (with meeting location correction) was made by Miranda Barry and seconded by Maddie Meehan. Vote to approve minutes was unanimous.

Reports

President's Report: Caitie Hilverman

- Michael is absent, so we'll review and approve this month's Treasurer's Report at the next meeting.
- This is Caitie's second-to-last meeting! She'll work with Dani on presidential transition and officers for the next year.
- During the March meeting, we'll vote on new trustees and officers, and vote on the 2024 budget.

Director's Report: Emily Chameides

- No written report yet since we just met two weeks ago.
- This month has been busy with the annual report and grant applications.
- Emily wrote 2 grants since the last meeting: one to Stewart's (that we regularly receive) for early literacy programs and one from the Fund for Columbia County of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, which is a new general operating grant.
- We got quotes for new computers and window shades, new computer chairs, and a people counter.

Program update from Tracy:

- Abby's Music & Movement is more popular than ever.
- The Bollywood dance program has been well attended and we're thinking of extending it.
- The Tai Chi and Community Care programs have also been very popular.
- We have upcoming collaborations with the Shaker Museum including a mini book/zine-making

workshop for tweens and teens and a fix-it picnic for mending.

- Art presentation on women of abstract expressionism and virtual tour of Lee Krasner and Jackson Pollock's home and studio with an art educator will be held in March in collaboration with CCLA..

Advocacy Day recap:

- It was great. Emily attended and talked with lots of library directors, trustees, patrons, and reps, along with members of Michelle Hinchey and Didi Barrett's staff.
- There was a big rally at the legislative office building.

Board Development: Dani French

- Interviews are currently underway for the open board positions.
- If you're on the interview panel, please make sure to get your interviews scheduled before the end of the month and fill out the Google form with your feedback.
- Dani will schedule a wrap-up conversation for early March so we can decide on who we're voting in.

History Room: SJ Williams

- Update on BLACC exhibit and programs
 - All oral histories are available online (blacc.hudsonarealibrary.org).
 - The exhibit opening and panel discussion will be held on March 7.
 - Tanya Jackson is curating the collection and Brenda is very excited to work with her.
 - On March 9: A youth workshop focused on home remedies and cyanotypes.
 - On March 23: Educator event on utilizing the resources from the collection.
- We received the SPARK/Eutopian Foundation Grant: \$4,100 to support LGBTQ+ oral histories in addition to the physical archive that SJ is starting.
 - Sj is working with Annie Reynolds who is trained with Oral History Summer School.
 - There's quite a few current oral histories in the OHSS collection.
 - Charlie Ferussi, who was interviewed by OHSS 10 years ago, will be interviewed again.
 - There are 4 slots for additional interviews at this time. Looking to find someone to talk about Bob Farris's contributions to Hudson and the start of the antique boom. Otherwise, looking to interview folks with a history with the queer community in Hudson - public or behind the scenes.
- Let SJ know if you would like to join the History Room committee.

Ghostly Gallop: Crystal Jeffs, Ryan Kelly

- Crystal, Ryan, and Emily met 3 weeks ago to do a retrospective for the 2023 Gallop.
- We're getting started with permits and calendar dates for next year.
- Thinking about getting quotes for custom medals.
- The Gallop will be on October 27.
- We're looking to ask for sponsorships early since we've found that there's no conflict with the Gala.

Friends of the Hudson Area Library Report: Ryan Kelly

- No updates since there hasn't been a meeting since we last met as a board, but please bring in your books for the next Book & Bake sale (weekend of March 15).
 - Maddie asked about pricing structure since resellers tend to ransack the book sale. Maybe an early entry fee or a tiered "pay what you can" structure.

New Business/Public Comments.

- Joe Ferris asked about Advocacy Day and if there was testimony submitted to the Assembly committee regarding the house budget add-on. Emily wasn't sure, but there's still time to write. The NYLA advocacy organization has a letter template you can use.
- Lloyd asked about computer usage stats for January. Emily confirmed that there was no written report this month, but there will be one next month.
- Lloyd asked about contact information for individual board members since they're not listed on the library site. Board members confirmed that we have a board development email address on the website and a president email address that can be added to the website. Patron issues can be brought to Emily at the info@ email address or to the board as a whole through either boarddev@ or boardpresident@ emails or by attending our public meetings.

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:45 pm by Wesley Brown and seconded by Julia Black. Vote to adjourn was passed unanimously.

Dani French, 02/15/ 2024
Recording Secretary

3/21/24
Date of approval