



**Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes**

Date: February 20, 2021  
Location: Remote (Zoom)

**Trustees Attending:**

Mark Orton (President)

Anna Nilsson (Treasurer)

Anna-Maria Assevero

Kimberly Erwin

Carol Pledger

Gary Sheffer

Miranda Barry

Theresa Parsons

Charlie Whittingham

Dan Ronsani

Kenneth Kraus

Bill Stenehjem

Michael Grisham

Julia Black

**Staff Attending: Emily Chameides (Director)**

**Others Attending:** Toni Koweek, Janet Schnitzer, Angela Hansen (potential Board member), Molly Salisbury, Chloe Whittaker

**Excused:**

**Absent, Not Excused:** Caitie Hilverman

Motion to approve January 2021 minutes from Charlie Whittingham and seconded by Kimberley Erwin - motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report - Mark Orton**

- Everything on the agenda will be covered later in committee updates

**Treasurer's Report, Anna Nilsson:**

- Received second round PPP loan of \$58,700.00
- People/organizations stepped up and gave big this year in the Annual Appeal. Additional \$5000 raised in January,
- Did not receive City of Hudson money until the first week of February, but it is in.
- \$107k in place for restricted funding. Work on the basement needs to be completed this spring. Must finalize the lease with Galvan for the space.
- Ultimately in a good place

Motion to approve the Profit and Loss document for February by Charlie Whittingham with Theresa Parsons seconding and motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Bill Stenejhem with AnnaMaria Assevero seconding and motion passed unanimously.

### **Library Director's Report, Emily Chameides**

- New Program Director, Tracy Robinson, will start March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Collaborating with Claverack, Roe Jan and Kinderhook Libraries on events this spring – Tech Projects, Snow Moon event, etc.
- Programming
  - Plenty going on - check website for full list
  - Tea Tasting event in March with Verdigris.
  - Pilot project called Library of Local - focused on food resiliency – moved out until April.
  - Oral History Project, first event in March. Planning for Oral History Summer School.
  - Ecotopian Library installed in nook to the right of the entrance to the drill shed. Books, pottery, soil samples from Hudson, bags for people to bring their own soil samples, images of the Hudson River. Adorable pillows that look like rocks. Installed by Tool Shed, group based at Basilica, Mary Mattingly, artist in residence at the Basilica, let the installation.
  - Early Literacy and Learning network “Talk, Read, Sing Columbia”
    - Book and activity bags - crafts, activities, etc.
  - Planning for Summer Reading book bags again.
- Grants – Lots of grant deadlines around March 1.

### **Long Range Strategy Discussion**

- Mark appoints a Long Range Planning committee to work on refining the plan with tasks that will achieve the goals. Initial group: Dan Ronsani, AnnaMaria Assevero, Charlie Whittingham, Gary Sheffer, Bill Stenejhem.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Board Development**

- We have officers for the slate, but need a Secretary:
  - President: Mark Orton
  - Vice President: Caitie Hilverman
  - Treasurer: Michael Grisham
  - Secretary:
- We currently have 15 members

- DeWayne, Anna, and Theresa all off in March
- Currently we have 15 members, can have 18
- Going to have 5 slots open

### **History Room, Gary Sheffer**

- Taking advantage of this time to digitize things, like city of Hudson directories that are starting to deteriorate
  - Many are 100 years old or more
- History Talk on the Underground Railroad with Paul and MaryLou Stewart of the Underground Railroad Project
- Working on Blue Anchor and Youth Center projects.
- Want to expand committee to include more people from City of Hudson. Two new members:
  - Carole Osterink
  - David Voorhees, Leisler Institute
  - Will reach out to Greenport and Stockport communities for representatives

### **Ghostly Gallop:**

- Planning in parallel – in-person or virtual event for the fall.

### **Programing:**

- Planning a meeting soon.

### **Marketing, Charlie Whittingam**

- Planning a fun event for Cinco de Maio – Mexican food (Casa Latina?) Mariachi Band. Similar to Valentines Day event.
- Complete Library Brochure by May 1.
- Gala
  - Start two tracks – in person or virtual.

### **Fundraising, Miranda Barry**

- First Advisory Committee meeting - end of January
  - Starting group – Allan Chapin, Anna Nilsson, Susan Danziger, David Murphy, Miranda Barry, may add more. Met end of January, update the group on library activities and finances ask for help reaching out to the larger community. Suggestion made to involve local government officials. Will reach out to Mayor of Hudson and Supervisors of Greenport and Stockport to see if they will join, ex-officio. No obligation to contribute, but will create more connection to the Library.

- Successful Valentines Day event. Special thanks to Ken Kraus and Anna d’Onofrio, Charlie Whittaker, AnnaMaria Assevero, Miranda Barry, Mark Orton. Raised about \$3,500 and was very effective at making connections with local businesses. Raised spirits! People loved the baskets. Recommend next year a chocolate-only option.
- Need to make a Thank You email blast to all the people in the community who have stepped up to help the Library this year. Miranda planning to write Thank You notes to annual appeal donors.

**Friends of the HAL, Toni Koweek**

- Toni is stepping down in April – they are still seeking a President for next year. May change to quarterly format.
- Tentatively planning a book sale in June
- Clearing out the storage room. Possibly shredding some old records with participation from Emily.
- Accepting donations of good quality books now, but will have to stop when the carts are full. 1 small box or bag per person per week limit.

Motion to adjourn by Theresa Parsons at 11:20am and seconded by Kimberly Erwin. Motion passed unanimously.

Miranda Barry	2/20/2021
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Date</b>