

Minutes of the Southold Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting
September 24, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 pm

Present: L.Davidoff, C.MacArthur, P.Reilly, A.Ristuccia, C.Broussard, M.Daddona, T.Hudgens, N. Stellato

Absent: N. Colón, J. Roth

The **Minutes** from the last meeting were approved by Ann and Camille seconded

Treasurer's Report: Tom asked for a minor clarification. The report was approved by Camille and seconded by Ann

Director's Report: As emailed to the Board. Caroline added that the final payment for the new doors was made. Caroline discussed the concerning post-pandemic low NYS reading scores in grades 3-8. The library staff is revamping approaches to encourage and improve reading skills. Penny is focusing on grades 4-6.

Caroline and Lisa recently met with Senator Palumbo at the annual meeting with New York state legislators. They discussed the library budget, construction aid, and control of library content. Mr. Palumbo was walked through the process of how library collections are selected and retired. The phrase "Freedom to Read" is preferred over "Banned Books". Mr Thiell was honored for his continued support of libraries.

Committees

Buildings & Grounds: N. Antonucci is no longer chair due to his recent resignation as a trustee but will remain an interested and participating patron on this committee. Jim will lead the B&G committee. The new locksmith will replace the old crash bars on the new doors.

Finance: No news

Fundraising: Once schematics are settled on, fundraising plans will commence for the Pocket Park

Personnel: Year end recognitions will be under consideration soon

Policy: Two new policies are being developed

Strategic Planning (Formerly Long Range Planning): no news

Pocket Park: Salty Roots has been communicating with the neighboring property owner, Mr. Planamento regarding settling the right of way issue. The two available surveys are at present unclear

New Business: There was a recent partial electrical outage in the Library during Caroline's day off. The staff was not confident in proper procedure. Emergency procedures and chain of command were reviewed with staff and written instructions are prominently displayed by the Circulation Desk. Jim will assemble an emergency "cheat sheet" for Trustees. Camille offered to put together a document on how to access government websites. Caroline and Jim would like a new sign for the Book Cottage book sales, however the Friends prefer their old sign.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Stellato
Secretary