

Croton Free Library Board Minutes
January 30, 2017

Present: Trustees: Kelly Thomann, President (17), Barry Feinberg (18), Howie Myers (18), Leslie Ellis (19), Sharyse Eisinger (20)

From the Association: Marianne Merola
Library Director: Yvonne Cech

Call to Order: Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

December minutes approved.

President's Report: Kelly

*The Ottinger Room Program Room Policy was updated and now requires groups that use the Ottinger room to have a certificate of insurance coverage for liability which holds the library harmless for any losses or claims resulting from the use of the library premises. While this may unfortunately deter some smaller groups from using the Ottinger room, the policy update is necessary to protect the library. Other public venues also require the certificate of insurance. The language was reviewed and the policy was approved pending changes.

*The Board manual requires an update and inclusion of Bylaws for the Board of Trustees. Yvonne found a copy last amended in 2001. The document was reviewed, amended and approved. The only revision made was to change the statement: "No Trustee may succeed himself or herself on the Board if he or she has served a full term" to include the statement at the end, "unless approved by a majority of the Board."

*The meeting with Sandy Galef and WLS representative (executive director) was discussed and options appear available which would result in less dire consequences than initially considered.

Director's Report: Yvonne

*E-book downloads seem to be leveling off as reflected in less downloads in December 2016 than December 2015.

*Thanhha Lai, a Newbery Honor Book author and local resident visited the library on 12/22. This event was co-sponsored with the PVC PTA. Yvonne spoke to 140 8th graders about the newly refurbished teen room, the 3D program and the Docent program.

*Whistleblower and Conflict of Interest documents need to be re-signed for both the Library Board and the Association.

*The shelves for the Makerspace have been delivered. The current shelving unit is now in the children's room, where extra shelving is needed for the picture books.

Building and Grounds

*Interior signage for shelving is installed. Building and area signs will be ordered soon.

*The Teen Room re-vamping is complete.

Gifts and Grants

*The huge donation of 190 Great Courses on DVD, all new and unopened, from Rod Kooney is valued at approximately \$10,000. Mr. Kooney committed to updating the collection each year with 10 additional courses. It is in memory of his late wife. The collection needs to be catalogued and needs space to store it. Once it becomes available, it is approved for promotion.

Technology

*The library now has a fourth public computer to be owned and maintained by WLS for \$550/year. The wiring is already in place, so no other costs are involved.

*The library is one month away from lending out laptops.

Makerspace

*Jerry Pinkney's event is scheduled for February 16th. Croton Harmon High School art teacher Jodi Burger will also be there. Filming has begun for the promotional video.

Art Committee: Howie

*Jerry Pinkney's work is up and amazing.

Association Report: Marianne

*The Association is developing fundraising ideas. They include Novel Night, a themed dinner, Spelling Bee with local celebrities, Holiday Giving Tree with specific library needs, among others.

New Business:

*A Croton Reads panel discussion with West Point, Columbia University and possibly a representative of the publishing world was discussed. Kelly will reach out to her prosthetic department to find soldiers with military combat.

*The Annual Report is due in March.

*Mary has an art exhibit opening at the Hendrick Hudson Library on February 4th from 2-4pm.

*Kelly received three portable magnifying readers that she will donate to Hendrick Hudson under shared services.

The next meeting is February 13th @7:30 PM. We will finalize the 2018 budget and review the Long Range Plan.

No meeting on March 13th. It is moved to March 27th @7pm at the Hendrick Hudson Library, followed by the joint Croton/ Hendrick Hudson meeting at 7:30pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Sharyse Eisinger, Secretary