

Croton Free Library Board Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2024

PRESENT: Trustees: Susan Ranis (24), Marianne Merola (27), Adam Decker (28), Leslie Ellis (24), Laura Stelman Jaeger (26), Mayla Hsu (26), Margaret Mahoney (26), Jane Beller (27) Library Director: Jesse Bourdon ATTENDING VIA ZOOM: Laura Stelman Jaeger (26)

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM

APPROVAL OF MARCH 2024 MINUTES - Motion to approve March 2024 minutes was made by Leslie Ellis and seconded by Margaret Mahoney. Minutes were unanimously approved by the Board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT • Collection Statistics and Patron Services Collection statistics for the month of March 2024 were presented. The Director discussed the 2023 NYS Annual Services Report and 2023-2024 Operating Budget he had prepared and distributed to the board. The Director discussed the Town of Cortlandt Contracts and noted that the Town of Cortlandt Tax Exemption paperwork had been filed. The Board discussed the allocation of Town of Cortlandt money and the Director explained how money was currently allocated among the Town of Cortlandt contracted libraries. He noted that he was planning on meeting with the other Town of Cortlandt contracted libraries in the coming weeks. Eclipse Glasses were given out April 1 and over 500 were given away in under 3 hours. The Director noted that \$600 had been donated to the library in honor of Vera Munson. He made the Board aware of a Trustee Institute session to be held by the Westchester Library System regarding "Understanding the 414 Vote". Finally, the Director noted that April 28 was our annual celebration of Local Authors event.

APPROVAL OF 2023 ANNUAL SERVICES REPORT - Following the Director's presentation of the 2023 Annual Services Report and the 2023-2024 Operating Budget and the Director answering questions raised by the Board, it was decided that additional time was needed to consider a resolution to approve the Operating Budget. A motion was then made by Adam Decker and seconded by Jane Beller to approve the 2023 Annual Services Report as presented by the Director. This motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Because of the absence of the Treasurer, a full Treasurer's report for March was postponed until the next meeting. The Board then examined the Check Register for the month of March and a motion was made by Leslie Ellis and seconded by Marianne Merola to approve the Check Register which was unanimously approved by the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: • Croton Reads – The success of Croton Reads was discussed by the Board and Jane Beller thanked for all of the work she had done to make the event a success. The Committee Chair declared that Julia Glass was very happy with the event we held. • Art – The Committee Chair noted that the March-April Artist's work was up and that a reception will be held on April 21 between 1-3PM • Long Range Planning - The Committee Chair noted that four different policies continued to be worked on by the Committee • Buildings and Grounds - The Committee Chair noted that the Committee will meet next week. • Fundraising – The President speaking on behalf of the Committee Chair who was attending via Zoom noted that progress was being made for the next Book and Bake Sale, the sign-up genius will be up soon, Committee members already have assignments. New bags are coming. The Director noted that the new bags will not be the same as the previous bags but a suitable substitute would be found.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – Two new potential Trustees were put forward to the Board by the Library Trustee Search Committee, Kate Fabian and Bethany Basile. A motion was made by Jane Beller and seconded by Leslie Ellis that Kate Fabian be elected to the Board of Trustees to finish the term of Lynn Kauderer (2028). This motion was unanimously approved by the Board. A motion was then made by Leslie Ellis and seconded by Jane Beller that Bethany Basile be elected to the Board of Trustees to finish the term of Jane Beller (2027). This motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Leslie Ellis and Susan Ranis, then both re-expressed their willingness to continue as members of the Board of Trustees for additional 5-Year Terms. A motion was then made by Jane Beller and seconded by Marianne Merola that Leslie Ellis be elected to a new 5-Year Term as a Trustee. This motion was unanimously approved. A motion was then made by Leslie Ellis and seconded by Mayla Hsu that Susan Ranis be elected to a new 5-Year Term as a Trustee. This motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

ADJOURNMENT - A motion was then made by Leslie Ellis and seconded by Jane Beller to adjourn the meeting and move into Executive Session pursuant to Section 105(1)(f) of the Open Meetings Law (Public Officer's Law). This motion being unanimously approved, the Meeting was adjourned at 8:53PM.

Respectfully submitted by Adam Decker, acting as Secretary