

## Aurora Free Library Board of Trustees DRAFT Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2018

**Present:** Steve Moolin, Ed Easter, Deb Hoke, Brian Brown, Jim Burkett, Julie Schneider, Ellen Baker-Wikstrom, and Sandy Groth

**Excused:** Rufus Bates and Barb Blom

**Guest:** Marie Dentes

**House Walk Report** - Marie presented posters for distribution and request for 4 volunteers on 12/8 from 1 to 4 to be at each of the homes.

**Call to Order** at 5:20.

**Consent Agenda** – August without edits & October Minutes with edits and November agenda approved unanimously.

**Conflict of Interest** – Jim noted his involvement with Aurora Community Preservation Panel and the King Ferry Food Pantry.

**Treasurer's Report** – Request for Board members to provide ‘fresh eyes’ on budget categories and assist Deb and Sandy as we put the 2019 operating budget together. Deb and Sandy will provide historic spending information. Volunteers are;

- Fundraising                                      Steve Moolin
- Repairs & Maintenance                      Brian Brown
- Salaries    Julie Schneider

Deb noted that fund transfers to CNY Community Foundation are 2/3 complete. Wrap up required with Wells-Fargo funds in form of signature that Robin Driskel will provide on 11/19/18.

**Director's Report** - \$60K received from tax levy. Opinion from state legislators is that there will likely be no bullet aid in 2020. Working on confirming contact information for the Cayuga Foundation. Attended NYLA conference in Rochester and highlighted two of several workshops attended.

**Fundraising Committee** - See House Walk Report.

**Preservation Committee** – Walks, gutters, first floor south side storm windows and Cherry Ave. door completed. Rebuild of south side double hung sash underway. Exterior light fixtures to be installed 11/30. ‘Zabriskie’ plaque installation and Main Street sign repair to be scheduled.

Brian is working with High Standard Construction on configuration of MOH stage doors and coordinating with MOH performance schedule for excavation associated with water infiltration work and possible 48 hour hot water shut down or temporary LP connection.

**Morgan Opera House** – Ellen reported on two upcoming performances 12/1 and 12/2.

**Old Business** - “The Hub” – No Report. Annual Appeal letter signed, left at service desk for absent Board members and staff to sign.

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**New Business -**

**Tax Cap Override Resolution**

*Whereas, the adoption of the 2019 budget for the Aurora Free Library may require a tax levy increase that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and*

*Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members; now therefor be it*

*Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Aurora Free Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2019 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on November 15, 2018.*

Steve motioned, Ed seconded, motion approved unanimously by the seven (7) board members present which constitutes 78% of board.

**Tax Levy Vote Approach** - General discussion around taking one large step to reach tax levy amount that would cover the approximate 70% of the operating budget devoted to 'keeping the doors open and lights on' or to continue a series of small steps (\$6K +/-) to reach the 70%. Discussion to continue at December meeting with attention to following questions;

- How many months of operating costs should we target for as a 'rainy day' fund? – Deb to provide.
- What have voting results looked like since we started asking for \$6K increases? – Steve to provide.

**Annual Meeting** – No substantive discussion except to ask for a Board member to take on the planning of this meeting.

**Adjournment** - *Motion to adjourn at 6:35.* Ed motioned, Deb seconded, motion approved unanimously.

**Next Meetings** – December 20 & January 15.

**December Meeting** - Annual Budget, Tax Levy Vote Planning, Annual Meeting Planning.

**Attachments** – None.