

Aurora Free Library
Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2022

Present: Susan Deacon, Susan Dean, David Eckhardt, Natalie Kimbrough, Thea Miller, Ellen Wikstrom

Zoom: Dennis Looney

Staff: Sandy Groth

Guests: Marie Dentes and Robin Driskel

The meeting was conducted via ZOOM and in-person. The meeting was recorded. The one zoom participant was in their home.

- A. Susan Deacon called the meeting to order at 5:40pm and welcomed all in attendance.
- B. Conflict of Interest – No conflicts of interest were noted. Susan Dean motioned to approve the consent agenda, Dave seconded. CARRIED
- C. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Net BLB revenue \$31,000. 210 in attendance. Projections for next year; increased food costs and increased ticket prices.
 - b. Discussion of an AFL Venmo account, along with updating our current PayPal account. This project is slated for 2023. Thea will reach out to Sarah at FLLS to see if there are guidelines for online payment systems.
 - c. Susan Deacon made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report, Ellen seconded. CARRIED
- D. Director's Report
 - a. Polished Silver senior social group with Cookie. The full event time, including set up, and event time would run from 10:45am-2:30 pm. The event would occur four Tuesdays during the winter. Potentially can see if Helming grant funds can cover staff hours expenditures. AFL has a policy which includes outside events within the AFL space. The board agreed to move forward with the AFL hosting this program.
 - b. Previous AFL cleaner gave notice, final cleaning service was at the end of October. Sandy is gathering quotes for a new person or service. Our previous cleaner spent, on average, 1 ½ to 2 per week cleaning the library.
 - c. AFL will be given \$2,000 of funding from the FLLS in 2022 (to be spent in 2023). This funding is similar to a collection development grant, used to weed out older books and replenish print and/or digital books.
 - d. FLLS Library eContent Contribution: AFL to pay \$1,500
 - e. AFL to pay \$226.74 to FLLS for internet service contribution in 2023.
- E. Committee Reports-

- a. Fundraising-
 - i. BLB \$31,000 net profit. Board to write a letter of thanks to the Inns of Aurora.
 - ii. Appeal letter has been sent to Jacobs Press. Projected to be in mailboxes by Dec. 1st (using the bulk mail permit).

- b. Morgan Opera House -
 - i. Octet of Trombones scheduled for Christmas in Aurora (12/3 at 1:00pm)
 - ii. Shepherd's Play, tentatively scheduled for December 17th.
 - iii. Ellen made a motion to approve Susan Forbes' nomination to the MOH Committee, Thea seconded, CARRIED.

- c. Preservation Committee -
 - i. Sink issue is resolved.
 - ii. Gutters: Dave is working with Mike Wilkenson regarding gutter fix. Also looking into gutter covers.
 - iii. Roof work: NY State grant money (\$30,249, 90% of the project) was released; however, AFL is waiting for the check to be delivered. Project will be completed in Spring 2023.
 - iv. Johnson Stonework scheduled to seal the edges of the steps and stairs. This caulking will prevent water from seeping in the edges before the winter weather.
 - v. Rot along the bottom of the side door. Dave is looking into ways to repair the door and get a brass kickplate to protect it.
 - vi. Ellen is working with an engineering company to provide a quote for the MOH air conditioning system.

- d. Susan made the motion to approve overriding the tax levy, stating: Whereas, the adoption of the 2023 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 therefore be it Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Aurora Free Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2023 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on November 17, 2022. Dave seconded, CARRIED

- e. Nominating Committee
 - i. Ellen to stay on as interim position until a MOH member is assigned.

F. Budget

- a. Discussion regarding distribution from the Central New York Community foundation in the budget. If we don't budget for it, we can still pull from it if needed. Agreed to keep the distribution off the budget.
- b. Discussion of including money in the budget for PR, marketing and fundraising needs.

G. Adjournment – Susan moved to adjourn the meeting, Ellen seconded. CARRIED.
Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Next meetings: Thursday, December 15th, January 19th