

LaGrange Association Library  
Board of Trustees Annual Meeting  
Thursday September 12, 2024 @7 PM

**MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Mary De Bellis, President Suzanne Davis, Vice President Devon Bryan, Dan Jacobs, Ann Commisso, Susan Birchman, Ginnie Genovese, Jack Jones

**Absent:** Maher Pathan, Melanie Wargo

**Call to Order:** 6:58 PM by Suzanne Davis

**Public Comment:** None

**Correspondence:** None

**Guest Speaker:** Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Executive Director of MHLS

The Board is considering a 414 Vote in 2025 and Ms. Aldrich spoke about the process and answered all of our questions. We are an Association Library which receives public funding. We need a minimum of 25 signatures to get on the ballot. It is participatory democracy and it is our duty to educate the public on the merits of a 414 vote.

**Consent Agenda**

- **Action Item:** Be it resolved that the Board acknowledge and approve the following items as the Consent Agenda:
  - Meeting Minutes for August 8, 2024
  - Director's Report
  - August Financial Reports with the following adjustment:
    - Acceptance of the Dutchess County Library Broadband grant in the amount of \$1670.00 and an increase to the 2024 annual budget in the same amount.

Motion to approve: Susan Birchman

Second: Devon Bryan

Passed unanimously

**Capital Campaign/Fundraising** (Suzanne for Melanie)

The photoshoot didn't meet expectations; only one family signed up. We have canceled the session and will consider October or November of this year. We will need to set a minimum number for sign-ups and a close off date at least a week before the shoot takes place. We will speak to the Photographer about the reschedule.

### **Board Development/Nominating (Ginnie)**

Julie Colacchio will be here next month for a vote to appoint her as a Trustee.

### **Building (Jack)**

Nothing to report

### **Bylaws/Policy (Devon)**

- Report on Policy Committee meeting held on August 22

Of the 90+ policies reviewed, 71 are current. Some documents need to be on our website and also in printed form at patron request, so this will be addressed.

- **Action Item:** Be it resolved that the Board review and adopt the American Library Association Bill of Rights.

Motion to approve: Suzanne Davis

Second: Ginnie Genovese

Passed unanimously

### **Finance (Dan)**

- Report on Finance Committee meeting held on August 26

The reserve funds will stay in HVCU. There's a 12 month flex CD of \$122,000 and \$61,000 in a 36 month CD.

The 2025 budget was presented to the Board.

The Common Area Charges are much larger than previous years. We have planned for the higher amount over the past 5 years for 2025. Suzanne sent a note to our lawyer for clarification regarding the validity of certain CAM charges as per wording in the lease.

Mary reports that Phase 2 renovations are complete and has reached out to the Architect about Phase 3.

Next year we will look at enhancing employee retirement benefits.

- **Action item:** Be it resolved that the Board approve the proposed 2025 Library Budget for submission to the Town.

Motion to approve: Devon Bryan

Second: Susan Birchman

Discussion: The Library's Annual Report is presented on the website and sent out electronically.

It was suggested that it be mailed to all the households in LaGrange. That may be cost-prohibitive to the 2025 budget, but we can look into managing those costs. The Town consists of at least 2 zip codes.

Passed unanimously

### **Long Range Planning (Ann)**

Nothing to report

## **Personnel (Devon)**

Report on Personnel Committee meeting held on August 22: Mary's mid-year review went well with positive feedback from Trustees

- **Action Item:** Be it resolved that the Board accept the resignation of Danielle Haight-Mueller, full-time Adult/Teen Services Coordinator, effective September 20.
- **Action Item:** Be it resolved that the Board approve the appointment of Reana Panday for the position of full time Adult/Teen Services Coordinator at \$21/hr. effective September 6.
- **Action Item:** Be it resolved that the Board accept the resignation of Jessica Wiede, full-time Youth Services Coordinator, effective August 21.

Motion to approve: Dan Jacobs

Second: Ginnie Genovese

Passed unanimously

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** We will wait on a decision about the photoshoot after discussing it with Melanie. Suzanne reminded the Board that the sexual harassment prevention training assessment needs to be completed before October 1st of this year.

We will decide on pursuing the 414 vote in November. A meeting to discuss the vote will be scheduled in October. We will need 1) Voter registration rolls, 2) Assessed property value, 3) Average assessed property value.

**Adjournment: 8:42 PM**

Motion to approve: Ginnie Genovese

Second: Dan Jacobs

Passed unanimously

**Next meeting:** October 10, 2024

Respectfully submitted by,

Ann Commisso, Secretary