

FARMINGTON LIBRARIES
SINCE 1901
Service Beyond Expectations

Maureen Bittner
Secretary

Library Board Minutes
May 16, 2018

Attendees: Alan Sherman, Lori Yu, Jadwiga Gocłowski, Jorie Andrews, Sherry Perrie, Maureen Bittner, Wendy Ku, Ida Franklin, May Munson, Allison deVaux, Jay Johnston, Laura Horn

Absent: Peter Bartucca, Kelly Cruess, Ed Giannaros

Quorum: The meeting convened at 7:03 PM and a quorum was determined.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 18, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Metrics/Budget: Metrics reflect consistent trends except for a significant increase in adult and children's programming. Alan commented that both Leah Farrell and Anna Eisen should be recognized for their outstanding efforts in adjusting the programming schedules and focusing on increased attendance. The budget is on track.

Chair's Report: Alan thanked Lori for running the April meeting.

He then asked Laura Horn to report on the Art Committee's May meeting, specifically with regard to the recently approved Art Policy. Laura reported that the Art Committee's May meeting was productive in that John Teehan, former Board member and Wadsworth Atheneum librarian emeritus, had fresh input for the Art Policy. His comments regarded the deaccessioning of art and the subsequent purchase of such by Board members and FVGLA Trustees. After some discussion a motion was made (Munson, Yu) and unanimously approved to add the following wording as the final paragraph of the Policy: *Neither Library employees, Trustees of the Farmington Village Green and Library Association, nor members of their immediate families may purchase pieces deaccessioned from the Libraries' art collection.*

Alan, requested that Board members submit their evaluations of the Executive Director to him as soon as possible so that he may compile the information prior to the June meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

Jay reported that the Art and Artists in Farmington Exhibit committee's work is proceeding on schedule for the June 2, 2018 art show to be held in the Barney Library.

He also reviewed a proposed partnership with the New Britain Museum of American Art for a temporary, August 2, 2018 - October 7, 2018, art swap between the Libraries and Museum. A motion was made (Perrie, Andrews) and unanimously approved to allow for

the transfer and exchange of artwork with the New Britain Museum of American Art for this exhibit.

Jay reported on a heartwarming experience at West Woods School's Friday news show and stated that year-end reviews with all 40 employees have been completed. Alan asked if any good knowledge comes from the meetings, to which Jay replied that he does gain a good deal of intelligence and new ideas from those meetings. Finally, Jay reviewed several facilities improvements and programs that were completed during the month.

Director of Operations Report:

Laura reported on **hoopla**, a new online eBook, movie, tv, music, and audiobook service that the Libraries are subscribing to with good usage results. She also reported on new reader advisory techniques to better serve the public such as a new monthly Fresh Reads Program, which highlights the concept of reading the book before seeing the movie. Laura also is planning to work with Leah Farrell during the summer months to update the Libraries' web site.

Farmington Room:

Laura reported for the committee on the wonderful work of the current graduate student intern, who has digitized over 90% of the scrapbooks about Farmington Libraries located in the Farmington Room. Laura is also negotiating with another graduate student intern for the summer months.

Art Committee:

Jay reported that Linda Stamm, President of Winter Associates, will evaluate, on a pro bono basis, all art not currently on display as described in our new Art Policy.

Alan presented to the Board a photo of a local barn currently being offered to the Libraries for the art collection. After discussion it was the consensus of the Board that there may be more suitable options for the display of the photo, such as the Farmington Historical Society or Unionville Museum. Alan will relay this information to the donor.

New Business: There was none.

Other Business/Announcements: Jay asked the Board to attend the June 14th Art Show reception and to look out for the summer receptions at the Barney Library and New Britain Museum of American Art. Jay reminded everyone to arrive at the June 20th meeting by 6:00 pm for the end of the year Director's dinner.

Friends - Jorie extolled the achievements of Linda Chapron who received accolades at the Friends Annual State meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Bittner, Secretary