



Farmington Libraries since 1901

Library Board Minutes

June 18, 2024

Attendees: Dana Pescatello, Alan Sherman, Henry Gu, Lyman Louis, Rich Olivastro, Celia Bouza, Linda Chapron, Maureen Bittner, Norma Hartley, Trish Garcia, Jocelyn Kennedy, Kate Martorelli, Vanitha Patil, Keith Vibert

Board Members Not Present: Ida Franklin, Gary Ontko,

Quorum: A quorum was determined. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment: There were no members of the public present, and consequently, no public comments were made.

Approval of the Minutes: Lyman moved, and Maureen seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Board Chair Report:

Dana expressed gratitude to the Friends for organizing the upcoming book sale on Friday and Saturday, and for funding the new furniture and multimedia upgrade in the board room. As an update on recent events, the library launched the summer reading program with a celebration on June 17.

Dana also informed the board that the library will engage Maureen Sullivan for strategic planning. This could involve either a more engaged consultancy or joining the strategic planning cohort organized by Maureen Sullivan, which runs from October to January. In consultation with the board, the strategic planning committee and the library will join this cohort for the strategic planning exercise.

Additionally, Lyman, Celia, Gary, and Dana will work on the mission statement over the summer and will report back to the board in September. More members are encouraged to participate during this summer.

Executive Director Report:

Jocelyn updated the board on recent events at the library, including attending and presenting at the Connecticut Library Association Annual Conference in April, starting the Farmington ConnecCT entrepreneurial program with the town's economic development director, and preparing for the summer programs.

Jocelyn informed the board of recent personnel changes at the library. Lorette Feivelson joined as a Children's Services Assistant, while Kelly Szalewicz left her position as the Outreach Assistant. The library is currently posting the job to find a replacement.

The upcoming library closing dates are June 18th, July 3-6, and August 22-23.

The library has recently acquired a poster printer, primarily for internal use in producing signage and posters. There are plans to make it available to the public for a fee in the future.

Jocelyn shared the results of the library value word survey with the board. It was determined that the next step is to survey the board members and staff on the meanings of the top words to create the library's value statement.

Committee Reports:

Friends of the Library: The Friends approved the library's funding request for \$8,155 for the fall programs at their June 6 meeting. They will also hold a book sale on June 21st and June 22nd at the main library.

Nominating Committee: The nominating committee recognized the need to recruit new board members to replace those who will be leaving at the beginning of next year.

Infrastructure Committee: Gary, Dana, Jocelyn, and Rich are serving on the infrastructure committee. The committee identified the main library's roof problem as the most pressing issue. This, along with other infrastructure needs, will be discussed at the FVGLA financial meeting on June 24. The committee will keep the board informed of any developments regarding the roof issue.

Other Businesses:

The library received a request to serve alcohol at artist receptions for an art exhibit on July 18th in the Jay Johnston Community Room. Linda proposed a motion to approve the serving of alcohol at both receptions, which was seconded by Celia. The motion was unanimously approved by the board.

The board thanked Maureen for her service as she concludes her second term on the board.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50. Lyman moved to adjourn, seconded by Linda.

Next Board Meeting: September 18 at 7:00pm.