

Ogdensburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting, November 28, 2016
Minutes

Board Present: Scott McRoberts, Matt Duprey, Michelle McLagan, Cathy Piche, Marc Boyer, Shelley Bond, Lin Griffin, Jim Fish
Staff Present: Stephanie Young
Guest: Matt Corey, NCLS

The meeting was called to order at 5:18 pm. No public comments.

Motion by Matt Duprey, seconded by Marc Boyer to **approve the agenda.** *Unanimous*

Cathy Piche moved, Matt Duprey seconded motion to **approve the Oct. 18 2016 minutes.**
Unanimous.

No statistical reports available. No question on salaries and expenditures. Motion by Jim Fish, seconded by Shelley Bond to **approve bills paid in October.** *Unanimous.*

Director's Report: Discussion of Eva Remington Trust and Chippendale table. Decision to table this for further research in back library minutes for more information on original intent of trust. Jim mentioned the usual intent was to preserve the spending power of the original grant in perpetuity.

Stephanie: In addition to her written report Stephanie reported on appointments she kept for Penny at the NYLA conference with two lawyers who are knowledgeable about library concerns and a consultant on library advocacy. All recommended we go for a ballot initiative as soon as possible. She will check on a figure for hiring one of these lawyers to work with us. As to the question of difficulties with our relationship to the Remington with a change in Library Charter, the advice was that there should be no problem. She also received the suggestion that a local lawyer might be a better option for us and probably cheaper than Libby Post.

Dorian: No additions to the written report.

Chairperson's Report: None

Committee Reports:

Buildings and Grounds – Stucco work done; painting in the spring.

Policy ad Personnel – Has not met. Michelle will join that committee for now.

Finance - Bob Hennes and Jim Fish have spoken on the phone since the October meeting which Jim had to miss.

Program - Meeting minutes emailed to all. No additions.'

Unfinished Business:

Becoming a School District Library Discussion with Matt Corey (Conversation with Matt was spread out during the meeting, but all comments are included here.)

*Matt suggested that if we go for a referendum on the school ballot for \$10 or \$15 thousand, for example, to cover a potential cut by the City, that would mean only \$4 per property valued at \$100,000. This small amount would likely be more acceptable to voters than going for our entire budget.

*One reason to start with a referendum is to get people used to voting separately for the library budget.

- *Matt believes we could hold a referendum vote at a different time and place from the school election.
- *At this point about 1/3 of our card holders live outside the City.
- 62% of all the residents in Ogdensburg have library cards.
- *Matt will find out for us how many taxable households there would be outside the City but in the school district.
- *Matt described the 414 municipal vote. General consensus was that this would be of no benefit to us as it would be confusing and not increase the tax “pool”.
- *Matt agreed with Stephanie that we would likely be able to engage a local lawyer who could give us legal advice more cheaply than suggested by Libby Post and that Potsdam did this. We can find out who Potsdam used.
- *Matt informed the board of all the services of NCLS that could assist us in going out for a ballot initiative... Such things as the graphic design work, printing, and mailing could be done for free – we would just need to cover materials costs.
- *Matt will return in December to assist us at our Dec. 20 board meeting. He asked to be kept informed of budget matters between now and then.

Remington Trust and Table – see discussion under Director's Report.

2017-2021 Draft Plan – Michelle asked about this thought it was not on the agenda. The plan had been sent out via email. Comments invited. After questions about the appointing of a Finance Committee and the meaning or Operational Objectives noted in Evaluation Objectives heading, the board agreed to accept the Plan and asked that the director prepare a final draft to be presented at the December board meeting.

New Business:

Board member and officer nominations: Lin's term is up and she is not eligible to continue. One new board member is needed as well as a secretary for the board. Members can give suggestions to Scott.

Motion was made by Matt Duprey, seconded by Jim Fish to adjourn at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Lin Griffin, Secretary