

**Ogdensburg Public Library**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom**

**February 3, 2021**

**Board present:** Michelle McLagan, Ann Lesperance, Kathleen Lawrence, Tom Hannan, Marc Boyer, Cheryl Ladouceur, Barbara McDonough, Jana Norris, Jane Pinkerton

**Staff present:** Penny Kerfien, Dorian Lenney-Wallace

**Call to order:** 6:02 pm

**Public comments and guests:** Lora Nadolski, executive director of the Frederic Remington Art Museum, Dr. Patty Mahoney, and Julie Hackett Cliff

Lora Nadolski introduced herself to the board. Julie Hackett Cliff asked for information to be sent to her regarding the library and the Remington committee of the Board of Trustees, praised the Friends of the Library Book Store, requested that the board to reconsider the transfer of title of the Remington Collection, and requested that the Board research the residency requirements to have a seat on the board. She discussed beginning a society to educate the public about Eva Remington and the Remington art collection.

**Approval of the agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Cheryl Ladouceur and seconded by Ann Lesperance. *Unanimous*

**Disposition of the Minutes from the 01/06/2021 meeting:** Motion by Cheryl Ladouceur and seconded by Ann Lesperance to approve the minutes. *Unanimous*

**Disposition of the Minutes from the 01/20/2021 meeting:** Motion by Kathleen Lawrence and seconded by Cheryl Ladouceur to approve the minutes. *Unanimous*

**Financial and statistical reports:** Motion made by Marc Boyer and seconded by Cheryl Ladouceur to approve the bills paid in January 2021. *Unanimous*

The director answered questions regarding the reports: She explained that the Pomeroy Foundation is a partnership between the library and the city historian, who writes the grants, to place historical markers throughout the city. There are several end of year donations to the library.

**Director's report:** The timing of statistics collection has to be altered to accommodate the meeting date change.

**Librarian's report:**

- A. Usage is increasing. Curbside programs are well-received. Summer reading program preparation is beginning; all activities will be outdoors. The librarian is attending an NCLS (North Country Library System) workshop. Community connections are encouraged whenever appropriate.

**Chairperson's report:** Because of New York State cuts to NCLS, they will be passing some of the costs on to member libraries. A new flat rate with additional fees for some services will be introduced. There will be increases. Directors hope to have input into the services provided.

**Committee reports:**

- A. Building and Grounds: no report
- B. Policy and Personnel: A pandemic plan policy will be reviewed by the union and presented to the Board in March.
- C. Finance:
  - 1. The board approved the referendum at the last meeting. There is a group working to organize the referendum. They are working in teams for marketing, public relations, research, contacts. The group meets each Friday at 2:30 in the library or via Zoom.
  - 2. There was a meeting with Angela Gray, the city's financial advisor. There is a shortfall between the money in the 2021 city budget for the library and the payroll/ health insurance, and retiree expenses. There was discussion about how to address this. The committee will meet to further address the shortfall and will connect with Ms. Gray next week.
  - 3. The director needs more information from the city to complete the end of the year report.

**Friends of the Library report:** Memberships continue to arrive. The next meeting is on February 10, where the new board slate will be voted on. The Friends are assisting with the referendum. The Book Store remains closed due to COVID concerns.

**Unfinished business:** The weekly Friday referendum meetings are well attended. Going forward, the meetings will have a specific focus.

**New business:** none

**Announcements:**

- 1. Friends of the Library meeting- Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 4 pm via Zoom
- 2. Referendum meetings: 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26 at 2:30 pm in the library auditorium or via Zoom
- 3. Board of Trustees meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 6 pm in the library or via Zoom.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:57 pm was made by Cheryl Ladouceur and seconded by Barbara McDonough. *Unanimous*

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Lawrence, Secretary