

**The Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries  
Board of Trustees Meeting, October 9, 2015**

The October 9, 2015 meeting of the Board of the Foundation for MVLS Libraries was called to order by President William Leitch at 1:30 p.m. The following members were present: Bill Leitch, Jane Borrelli, Esther Swanker, Cheryl Cufari, Bonnie Kerr, Jon Finlan, Ed Asselin, and Eric Trahan.

Bill asked for motion to approve the appointment of Ed Asselin to the Foundation Board. Esther so moved, seconded by Cheryl, the motion was approved. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting (September)**

Motion by Jon, seconded by Cheryl, the minutes for September were approved. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

**Financial Reports (September)**

Eric reported. Total Foundation liabilities and equity: \$7,698.68. Motion by Esther, seconded by Cheryl, the financial reports for September were approved. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

Eric presented October amendments to the 2015 Foundation projected budget to reflect actual figures. Motion by Esther, seconded by Cheryl, the amendments were approved. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

**Committee Reports**

Executive Committee – no meeting, no report

Nominating Committee – Cheryl reported. Cheryl and Esther successfully recruited Ed Asselin to the Board and to co-chair the Golf Committee. Ed has some thoughts for the second board member from Schoharie County. Cheryl contacted Mary Donovan, Librarian from Fulton Montgomery County, as a possible board member or for some suggestions. As Rebecca Sokol resigned, the Foundation now needs one Board member from Montgomery, one from Fulton County as well as one from Schoharie County.

Finance and Investment Committee – no report.

Development and Community Relations Committee – no report

**Old/Unfinished Business –**

Foundation Grants -- Eric reported.

2015 / \$250 Project grants. The Foundation awarded a total of ~~\$5,000~~ <sup>\$3,500</sup> to member libraries. Projects varied from assistance in financing routers to initiating "one time one book" for the new Phyllis Bornt branch of the Schenectady Library.

Advocacy grants. Looking to next year, the Board needs to think about providing resources to assist member libraries in community engagement projects or in developing strategies for getting library budgets passed.

Foundation Projects – Eric reported.

Legal Advice. Eric met with Ellen Bach of Whiteman Osterman & Hanna. The firm agreed to provide guidance on the Foundation's management of donated money for member libraries. Legal obstacles include endowment, investment restrictions on public organizations, and gifts of public funds that cannot be given away. The Foundation is looking to develop a planned giving program and to manage new contributions for member libraries. MVLS will pay the legal fees.

Website. By next month, the website should be up and running. D2 Media is advising.

Year End Appeal. Eric has drafted a commitment card to be included with a letter. Letter stuffing will take place at the regular meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

2016 Golf Tournament -- Esther reported. The event will take place on June 20, 2016, at the Mohawk Golf Club, with plans to repeat the sequence of last year: registration, light lunch, play golf, open bar and dinner. The cost per golfer of \$150 may be higher. Esther needs suggestions for sponsors. The first golf committee meeting will take place on November 6, 2015, 3 p.m. at the club.

**New Business**

Future Fundraisers – Bonnie met with John Liu, owner and golf pro at the Canajoharie Golf & Country Club, to set up a second golf tournament fundraiser. The event is scheduled for August 6, 2016, with tee time at 2 p.m. John will provide notification to all golfers. The event will cost \$80 per golfer (including lunch). Sponsorships will differ from the Mohawk Golf Club event. It was suggested that each library donate a basket for a silent auction or raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

**Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 1:30 at MVLS.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Borrelli, secretary