

The Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries Board of Trustees Meeting, December 11, 2015

The December 11, 2015 meeting of the MVLS Foundation Board was called to order by President William Leitch at 1:30 p.m. The following members were present: Bill Leitch, Esther Swanker, Marion Grimes, Jon Finlan, Ed Asselin, Jane Borrelli, Bonnie Kerr, Cheryl Cufari, and Eric Trahan.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (October)

Eric noted that the amount for project grants to member libraries should be \$3750, not \$5,000 as stated in the minutes. Motion by Cheryl, seconded by Jon, the minutes were approved with initialed correction. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

Financial Reports (October and November)

Eric reported. Total Foundation liabilities and equity as of November 30, 2015: \$8,770.22. Eric noted that with year-end appeal the totals are now over \$10,000. Motion by Esther, seconded by Bonnie, the financial reports for October and November were approved. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – no meeting, no report

Nominating Committee – Cheryl reported. Cheryl's hard work to recruit trustee members from Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie counties has not yielded any thus far. Ed offered the name of a retired librarian from the college in Cobleskill. Cheryl will follow up.

Finance & Investment Committee – Eric presented the 2016 proposed budget which reflects expected increases from individual contributions and special event revenue on the income side, for a total of \$37,200; and more grants awarded to member libraries, and increased professional and publicity fees on the expense side, for a total of \$34,500. Eric expects the two golfing fundraising events will increase the Foundation's revenue in 2016. Motion by Ed, seconded by Bonnie, the proposed budget was approved. Ayes: all; Nays: none; Abstentions: none.

Development and Community Relations Committee – no report.

Old/Unfinished Business

Foundation Grants

Advocacy Grants – Eric reported. One library has applied for the competitive Advocacy grant with the deadline of December 15, 2015. Eric expects the library to receive a total of \$900 from the Foundation and \$1100 from MVLS.

Foundation Projects

Legal Advice re: holding/investing money for member libraries – Eric reported that progress is slow with the law firm working on finding us answers.

Year End Appeal – Eric reported. 925 letters were mailed out and thus far, with 27 – 28 responses, \$3500 has been donated. More is expected.

2016 Mohawk Golf Tournament – Esther reported. The event will be held June 20, 2016, with the cost, entry gifts, and sponsors still to be worked out. A save the date card was sent to last year's participants and interested parties.

2016 Canajoharie Golf Tournament – Bonnie reported. The event will be held on August 6, 2016, with more details to come. Sponsors will be divided geographically for the two events.

New Business

Future Fundraisers – As there are two golf tournaments planned for 2016, future ideas for fundraisers have been put on hold temporarily.

Grant Seeking – Eric reported. At the suggestion of Bill, Eric will call the Niskayuna Community Foundation for information on their grants. Eric mentioned Stewart's and the Golub Foundation as other possibilities. It was mentioned that identifying specific projects helps in receiving grant money. Eric noted that it might be better to wait as the MVLS board is currently in a brainstorming process for a new plan of service which will help identify needs of member libraries for grant money.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Next Meeting – The next Foundation meeting will be held on February 12, 2016, 1:30 at MVLS.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Borrelli, secretary