

The Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries

February 12, 2021 1:30PM

MVLS Office

Trustees Present: Edward Asselin, William Leitch, Sally Rappa, Carl Shepard, Eric Trahan.

Trustees Virtual: Paul O'Brien

Board President Edward Asselin called the meeting to order at 1:36pm.

A motion was made by Bill and seconded by Carl to receive the November 2020 minutes as written. Ayes: all Nays: none Abstentions: none

A motion was made by Eric and seconded by Carl to receive the financial reports for November and December 2020. Ayes: all Nays: none Abstentions: none

Committee Reports

Executive Committee: No reports

Nominating Committee: Eric made a motion to appoint Paul O'Brien to the unexpired term previously held by Cheryl Cufari, which expires in June 2023. Bill seconded the motion. Ayes: all Nays: none Abstentions: none. The motion passed. All welcomed Paul.

Eric states that all four seats are filled for Schenectady County, but there are still two open seats: one from Fulton County, and one that could be from either Fulton or Schoharie.

Carl suggests recruiting someone from Schoharie County libraries. Ed says that member libraries can suggest someone, or we could try someone from Cobleskill College Library.

Old/Unfinished Business:

Annual Appeal: Eric reviewed the difference and amounts of 2019 versus 2020, and is well pleased. In 2019, 34 contributions produced \$3,403.00. 2020 had 65 contributing \$4,837.00.

Ed asks is the 2020 increase a combination of the annual appeal and “Stay at Home” fundraiser. Eric reported the annual appeal had 45 donors contributing \$3,704.00. The “Stay at Home” had 20 donors contributing \$1,133.00. Ed says that is good news and congratulates those contributing. Paul asks do the people who contribute to the Foundation know where their money is going. Is it publicized? Are they thanked? Eric suggests sending out an email to all libraries and Ed suggests Facebook. What the Foundation does is mentioned in the annual appeal letter and on its website.

New Business:

Winter Advocacy Grants: Eric says that three libraries had applied. The libraries that applied are:

Cobleskill: \$1946.82 for marketing, and printed items for the May budget vote.
Schoharie: \$2,500.00 for advertising, and printed items for the May budget vpte.
Sharon Springs: \$1,400.00 to update the library’s local information brochure.
The total for all is \$5,846.82.

Eric makes a motion to approve the Advocacy Grants. Bill seconds the motion.
Ayes: all Nays: none Abstentions: none.

The motion is passed for the Winter Advocacy Grants to member libraries.

Mohawk Tournament:

Ed thinks that the tournament is set for a Friday in September. He will check his email and let everyone know the exact date. Bill expresses his concern as to whether Cheryl will be able to help as she has done in the past for making the tournament a success. Ed says that once the date is known in either March or April we will get rolling on the planning of it. The first thing in planning is to send out a “Save the Date” notice and set up status meetings leading up to the tournaments. What tasks are completed? What tasks need to be done? All agree.

Canajoharie Tournament:

John and Ed spoke and set the date of Monday, July 26, 2021 for the tournament. He says that the on the next meeting, April 9th, there could be a letter stuffing then. All agree.

Library Giving Day: Eric explains it is a concept that was started in Seattle. This year it will be held on Wednesday, April 7th and it will be mostly virtual with some posters. Eric suggests sending out a small mailing to past donors, because some people don't do virtual. Ed asks if this is a conflict to member library's own fundraising. Eric says that there are no libraries connected to this day and each library has their own way of fundraising.

A motion was made by Sally and seconded by Bill to end the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18pm. Next meeting on April 9, 2021 @1:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Rappa

2020-2021 Secretary