

Saugerties Public Library
Regular Board Meeting
Date: 3/13/2025

Present: Trustees Charlotte Herscher, Paul Vanbenschoten, Nina Schmidbaur, Timothy Scott, Julie Misiano, Ken Goldberg, Erin Poll, Rebecca Lang, Teresa Giordano

Absent: Yosefa Karchmar, Robert Irizarry

Staff: Director Jennifer Russell

Public Attendees: Leeanne Thornton, Ray Rebholz

Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM by President Tim Scott

Public Comment:

Leeanne Thornton, Town Board liaison: The town is negotiating with unions as the contract renewals are up. The Town is working to use money from the county to add lights to the pickleball field.

A proposal is being submitted to DOT, in order to improve the safety at the 3-way intersection near Simmons Plaza in Barclay Heights which has been the scene of many accidents. The Highway Dept has made some needed repairs

The Community Foundation is sending out letters seeking donations for the installation of a "Splash Pad", a child-centered water play area, slated to be added to Cantine Field. On May 22nd, there will be a Brooks barbecue fundraiser for the Splash Pad Project at Cantine.

Ms. Thornton added that "The Overlook" is a new online newspaper. A suggestion was made to reach out to them to see if they had a section to promote programs.

Friends of Library: Co-President Ray Rebholz says that currently the Friends are busy working on the plans for the May 31st street festival. In April, the fundraising/membership drive mailing will go out. Recently, it has been successful in adding new members. Next meeting will be March 24th at the library.

Unfinished Business:

- Required Sexual Harassment training. Four people have completed it. Tim encouraged the rest of the board to take the training as soon as possible.

New Business:

1. Policy draft for Public Comment at Board Meetings
2. Policy draft for Public Demonstrations

Secretary's Report:

Motion by Tim Scott and *Second* by Paul Vanbenschoten to approve the minutes as amended to properly annotate a budget line item adjustment. Motion passes unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$ 31,531.15 made by Charlotte Herscher seconded by Julie Misiano. Passes unanimously. In addition, motion was made by Charlotte Herscher, seconded by Tim Scott, to pay additional \$1,131 for a new microphone and \$9,526.73 for the elevator repairs. Passes unanimously.

Director's Report:

 Please see the report included in the Meeting Packet.

- February Programs were well attended including a new Puzzle Contest activity
- The Friend's generosity has enabled us to purchase 15 new computers, Museum Passes, new tables for the community room, continue the speaker's consortium subscription (last year we had 9,000 views), and contributed funds for the Summer Reading program.
- Virtual Library Consortium events can be accessed from the library calendar. The link from the calendar is active and can be watched live at the time listed. To watch previously recorded ones, you can access the link on the website under "programs" the "virtual programs"
- Tai Chi for arthritis and balance recently began in the Community Room and was well attended. It is an 8 week program, twice a week.
- Please see the calendar for more exciting programs coming up.
- The Ulster Library Association is going to subscribe to an e-newspaper service.

Committee Reports:

Finance: met on 2/20/25

We are in discussion to seek a new internet provider as a cost-saving endeavor as well as quicker internet speeds. We went over budget for snow removal, despite there having been little snow, because we pay per incident. The CDs are maturing soon. We began to look at the 2026 budget.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: 3/17/25 at 6PM

Personnel/Policy: met on 2/26/2025

1. Continued the review of the draft Policy for Parking Lot use Parking Lot Policy Draft; Motion to open discussion of the policy made by Erin Poll, seconded by Julie Misiano. A discussion followed, with voting tabled until the next meeting.
2. Policy for Public Comment at Board Meetings draft: motion to discuss the Public Comment policy made by Tim Scott, seconded by Erin Poll. When discussion was completed, a motion to approve the Public Comment Policy made by Tim Scott, seconded by Rebecca Lang. Passes unanimously.
3. Policy for Public Protest draft: motion to discuss the Draft Public Protest Policy made by Tim Scott, seconded by Erin Poll. When discussion was completed, motion to approve the Policy with changes made by Tim Scott, seconded by Paul Vanbenschoten.
4. Policy for Gifts and Donations draft of edits to a pre-existing Policy were reviewed but not yet voted on.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: 3/19/25 at 6PM

Facilities: met on 2/18/25

Finalized plan for sidewalk repair, using "All County Construction". It should take 4-5 days to complete.

A leak in the hot water heater was discovered, and a replacement has been ordered.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: 3/18/25 at 6 PM

Outreach: met on 2/26/25

Talked about various local events at which to host outreach efforts.

Discussed possible outreach events hosted by the library, in areas further afield within the Town borders.

Will see Trustees interested and able to assist with the various tabling events.

see minutes FMI Next meeting: 3/24/25 at 5:30 PM

Friends Liaison:

N/A

Motion to adjourn at 7:28 PM by Tim Scott;
Seconded by Nina Schmidbauer

Passes unanimously.

Submitted by Julie Misiano

Next meeting: 4/10/25 at 6PM