

Manlius Library Board of Trustees
~ In-Person Meeting Minutes, September 21, 2023 ~

Trustees Present: Kim Kutzer (President), Brian Lee (Vice President); Bonnie Buelow (Secretary), Charlie Collins, Linda Napier, Katie Brice, Janet Mallan

Trustees Not Present: Bruce Ruppert (Treasurer), Dan Whelan, Jaclyn Sisskind

Librarian Staff Present: Alyssa Tassone Ali, Library Director; Marcia Short; and Kerstin Spina, Library Business Manager

Also Present: Liz Anderson and Marcia - Associated Artist's board members

President's Report:

Manlius Board President, Kim Kutzer, called the September meeting to order. At that time, the May 2023 minutes were approved.

Approval of the President's Report:

Accepted: Charlie Collins

Seconded: Brian Lee

All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer, Bruce Ruppert was unable to be present for tonight's meeting, but left the summer reports for us to review.

The summer (June-August) financials were discussed. The financials were where they should be for this time of year. A quarterly financial meeting is coming up.

Lastly, the library needs to pay the auditor.

Approval of the Treasurer's report:

Accepted: Bonnie Buelow

Seconded: Kim Kutzer

All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Directors' Report:

Director Tassone updated the Board with the summer happenings at the library. Let's just say, the library was busy!! Almost 600 kids (0-12 year olds) signed-up for the summer's 6-week reading program with about 450 completing their goals! Beyond the summer reading challenge, there were over 100 programs for these 0-12 year-olds and their families! Teens had a little over 60 readers and almost 40 programs available. Lastly, over a 100 adults signed up for the reading challenge, and had 120-ish programs to enjoy!

In addition to reading challenges and library programs available to all ages, the Manlius

Library hosted their first plant swap. It was so well received that for the fall, the Library has started a Seed Library!

The library has had two new hires - the new Outreach librarian, Michelle Calupca and Sofya Fionova. Welcome!

At the onset of tonight's meeting, the Associated Artist's board members Liz Anderson and Marcia shared their groups' history and goals. Since 1982, the Associated Artists have displayed their work in the library. For this year, they asked to display work during Sept- Oct and May - June. Library staff member, Lorie Finger, will be the contact person for the Associated Artists. The Associated Artists began in 1926. When this date was shared, Spina immediately considered honoring the organization with a 100 year celebration! The idea was well supported by both the library and Artist's board members.

Beyond the goals and history of the Association, the library and association want to make sure the community is aware of the organization and its wonderful artwork! Paperwork is always available in the hallway where the artwork is displayed. An Artist's Reception happens at the start of the showings. All art is for sale, and all monies go to the artist - none to the library. The library simply hosts the displays. Lorie Finger will also help with supporting the artwork on social media - perhaps instagram?

The staff will honor Ms. Karen for her 35 years of service! Congratulations Ms. Karen!

For next year's capital budget, replacements for soft siding and leaky windows will take place.

Manlius is planning their 1st ever Swan fest on October 1st, a Sunday. The library will support the event with a Jigglebug activity.

New Business:

The board needed to review two new policies - the Exhibit and Display Policy and the Programming Policy.

The Exhibit and Display Policy is the library's newest policy. Charlie Collin's committee reviewed, and ok-ed this policy. A recommendation from our last audit was to make it clear that no money is exchanged with exhibits and displays, and for all to be abundantly clear that the library provides a spot for art, and is not responsible for damages, etc.

Accepted: Charlie Collins

Seconded: Brian Lee

All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

With the banned books uptick across the nation, the library designed a Programming Policy. This is a proactive policy. Programs have mostly been challenged in other areas, not the Manlius Library.

Accepted: Linda Napier

Seconded: Bonnie Buelow

All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

As for Old Business, the bathroom renovation will start October 29. The HVAC update will occur Monday, October 9. The library will have to close due to a crane, noise, etc. The HVAC is a one-day replacement!

Kim Kutzer adjourned the meeting.
Our next board meeting takes place Thursday, October 19 at 4pm.

Motion to Adjourn

Accepted: Charlie Collins

Seconded: Kim Kutzer

All voted in favor, and the motion passed

Best,

Bonnie Buelow, Secretary