

Minutes of the May 25, 2021 RFRR Board meeting

Kathleen Riegelhaupt called the meeting to order at 7:32.

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda includes the minutes of the April meeting. The April/May financials are not part of the consent agenda and will be reviewed at the next meeting. The April minutes were amended to include the last names of the two Auxiliary Board chairs. Sara Wise Miller moved to accept the consent agenda. Nicole Cunningham seconded. All approved the motion.

President's Report

Kathleen announced that given the changes in COVID rules and vaccination status, the next board meeting would take place in person at the library. The dial-in option would remain for those interested. She opened the floor for comments. There were none. The Nominating Committee will be reporting tonight and the Development Committee will report at the next meeting. The memo of understanding with the union is expected to be voted on at the June meeting.

Staff Reports

Chris reported that programs continue to expand. Programs on the Village Green such as Robert the guitar guy and Wiggle and Giggle have been very well received. The library is open and appointments are not necessary. Capacity levels will be monitored. Masks are still required. Pick-up service is morphing into express holds. Paper bags have been eliminated. The new business manager will be introduced to the board at the next meeting.

There is a meeting scheduled for June 9 with the city to discuss the new model for Rye-TV. Most likely the model will involve the library handling the archive of shows and the Rye Arts Center would handle the production.

Chris presented the New York State Annual Report which is a year-end synopsis of the library's activities. Kathleen asked about the increased materials cost and was it related to increased acquisition of ebooks. Chris noted that since circulation numbers are returning, it would not be the book budget but the media (books on CDs, for example) that would be amended. The CDs are difficult to replace if damaged. It is much easier to have an e-audiobook. Digital audiobooks are also used more often. The periodicals budget will also be shifted due to changes in usage. The number of card holders has remained fairly stable. The increased usage is due to the re-introduction of users who

already had cards, not new card holders. Sarah moved to approve the NYS annual report. Matt Anderson seconded. All approved.

Catherine Riedel recapped activities in the public service departments. The program of classical music on the green was very successful, with 116 people attending. Teen Services has been working on the “Empathy Project” by creating a story walk for the village green each week based on a different theme. A “Babywearing Yoga Class” is being conducted on the village green. A cookbook based on the successful Cooking with Kids program is going to be produced as a mini-fund raiser.

Auxiliary Board

Lina Eroh reported that there were two new nominees for the Auxiliary Board: Despina Gandhi and Megan Rossi. Jan Kelsey moved to approve the nominees. Sara seconded. All approved.

Lina then provided an update on the progress so far for the new Novel Night. They have a title, Cliffnotes!, a theme, wanderlust, and co-chairs, Lauren Tesoriere and Jaclyn Shanahan. They are working on the graphics. There will be no afterparty since it is a pared down event. The ticket price is also reduced to \$150 from the usual \$350. Hosts are permitted to fill their own parties if they choose. The event is scheduled for September 28.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee - Emilie Reddoch reported that the committee is preparing a list of possible nominees for new trustees. There will be three seats to fill but with some trustees rolling off, it may be as many as five seats to fill. They are looking particularly for people with knowledge in small business management, marketing and communications, major gift donations and building and grounds. The board should think about possible candidates over the summer and contact Emilie.

Board Discussion

Kathleen encouraged the board members to spread the word about Cliffnotes! and get people excited about the event. She noted that the summer programs would be starting soon and she hoped board members would promote and participate in them. She pointed out that the dashboard shows a snapshot of the past two months including fundraising. She appealed to all board members to contribute to the annual fund since there is a goal of 100% board participation.

Chris commented that the dashboard shows how things are opening up. Attendance is up but appointments are down. The stats are returning to normal, except that since the

children's programs are held outdoors, those attending do not pass through the counters and therefore are not included in the attendance figures.

There being no further business Kathleen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nicole so moved and Matt seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Action : The Board Approve the May meeting minutes