

Onondaga County Public
*** Libraries**

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MINUTES
OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting
June 16, 2021
Virtual Zoom Meeting
4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

T. Dodge	E. Kochian
S. Edelstein	M. Mahar
L. Fetyko	B. Morgan-Baker
J. Hurst-Wahl	T. Mulvey
E. Kassis	C. Ondrako

ALSO PRESENT

C. Zabriskie	D. Marmor	C. Diede
G. Cox	V. Massulik	H. Matzel
L. Bankert	S. Modrow	M. McDermott
R. Battelle	A. Perrine	J. Milligan
M. Carter	M. Roche	K. Schellinger
D. Dell	A. Schiavulli	A. Travis
O. Edwards	A. West	M. Van Patten
K. Hayduke	A. Ali	G. Wisniewski
C. Johnson		

WELCOME

Ms. Hurst-Wahl called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Kochian moved the consent agenda, which includes the minutes from the May 19, 2021 meeting. Ms. Fetyko seconded; motion passed unanimously. (Mr. Mulvey was not present at the time of the vote.)

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Zabriskie covered the following items on his report to the Board:

- Reopening/Latest CDC Guidelines:

What this means for OCPL:

- no more mask restrictions for vaccinated people
- no more temperature checks or contact tracing
- no more capacity restrictions as pertaining to COVID
- outside groups can go back to booking our meeting spaces
- indoor programming can resume with safe practices in place
- anyone not vaccinated we would still need to wear a mask

- need to revisit the Patron Code of Conduct to update it accordingly

There was discussion around children who are not eligible to be vaccinated yet and being in the library especially during programming events. The Board would like to get Dr. Gupta's thoughts on this, especially since the school districts are still having everyone wearing masks around the children.

Motion:

Resolution: 21-20

Mr. Dodge made the following motion:

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees approves to remove the mask mandate from the Patron Code of Conduct policy according to the current CDC guidelines.

Ms. Fetyko seconded, a discussion followed.
(Mr. Mulvey was not present at the time of the vote.)

Amended Motion:

Ms. Fetyko made the following amended motion:

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees approves to remove the requirement that all patrons need to wear a mask from the Patron Code of Conduct policy and will in the future comply with best practices from the county health department in terms of patrons' safety.

Mr. Dodge seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
(Mr. Mulvey was not present at the time of the vote.)

Mr. Zabriskie stated that we would be keeping the stanchions, taping and sneeze guards in place.

Motion:

Resolution: 21-21

Ms. Fetyko made the following motion:

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees approves to sunset the Reopening Plan.

Mr. Kochian seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
(Mr. Mulvey was not present at the time of the vote.)

Mr. Zabriskie thanked the staff for all their hard work and the Board for all their support during this pandemic.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Hurst-Wahl highlighted the following topics from her report:

- MOU Committee
Steady progress is being made on the MOU, which reflects an understanding of the major responsibilities of the Onondaga County Public Library system and its member libraries. Language has been clarified so we now know when we are referring to the "System" or "City" within the document.

Ms. Hurst-Wahl acknowledged all of Mr. Nichol's efforts in facilitating the MOU process and thanked the Board for providing the funding for him to do so.

- Post Pandemic Board Meetings

The current Governor's executive Order is in place until July 5, 2021, as it stands right now and she doesn't foresee it to be renewed. Therefore, the next Board meeting will be in person and we will ensure to make it comfortable for everyone.

There was a discussion regarding the possibility of continuing to meet remotely at times. Ms. Hurst-Wahl stated that under NYS Open Meetings Law we would have to follow certain protocols for the public to be able to participate in a virtual meeting as well in order for us to do so.

- Trustee Training

Senator Rachel May announced that S.4435A has passed the NYS Senate and the NYS Assembly. Just waiting for the Governor to sign the bill. S.4435A requires members of a board of trustees of public, free association, and Indian libraries to complete 2 hours of trustee education annually.

The State library is encouraging all public library boards of trustees to meet this standard.

- 2022 Draft Budget

Due to the budget process being a bit later this year, the Board will have to meet in late July or early August in order to vote on the library's 2022 draft budget in order for it to be presented to the County in a timely manner.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution: 21-18

Mr. Kochian moved the following resolution:

Whereas, Ossie Golden was an exemplary staff member of Syracuse Public Library beginning in 1922 in the book mending department (immediately out of Central H. S. in Syracuse), later completing degrees from Columbia University and Syracuse University, and becoming the head of the Circulation Dept. until her retirement in 1967; and

Whereas, the OCPL Board of Trustees established an award in her name to recognize an "uncommonly high level of service"; and

Whereas, the award was given in the amount \$500, and included the winner's name being inscribed on an award bowl and celebratory reception; and

Whereas, the award was given from 1979 to 2014 (except in 1980 and 1996) but was subsequently paused; and

Whereas, it is desirable to again “encourage, recognize and reward an uncommonly high level of service”; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that the OCPL Board of Trustees does hereby reinstate the **Ossie Golden Award**, requests the Executive Director and staff of OCPL plan the necessary steps to implement the award. Upon acceptance of the implementation steps, it is the goal of the Board to give the award by November 2021 and in April during Library Week annually thereafter.

Ms. Ondrako seconded, a discussion followed.

Mr. Kochian gave some background history about this award and how it was named after the librarian, Ossie Golden.

The motion passed unanimously.
(Mr. Mulvey was not present at the time of the vote.)

Resolution: 21-19

Ms. Ondrako moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the OCPL Board of Trustees approves the grant application to the Syracuse Parks Conservancy Greening Grant for \$382.00 to purchase tools, fertilizer and plants to update the Land Bank Pocket Park near the Mundy Branch Library.

Mr. Kochian seconded; the motion passed unanimously.
(Mr. Mulvey was not present at the time of the vote.)

PRE-READS

1) OCSLD (Onondaga County Suburban Library Directors)

Ms. Travis gave an electronic report to the Board.

Mr. Dodge inquired about how patron traffic has been. Ms. Travis stated it has been increasing slowly and feels it will increase even more during the summer months. Other member libraries mentioned they are busy.

Mr. Edelstein commented it would be nice to have these observations documented as everything is progressing towards more normalcy.

2) Transit Report

Mr. Edelstein would also like to see what our reasonable goals/expectations are for transit delivery.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS Ms. Morgan-Baker acknowledged Dr. Dell who was one of the speakers for CenterState CEO’s Tech and Cultural Speaker Series this past December and thanked him for representing the library.

Mr. Dodge congratulated Jordan and Minoa libraries for their testimonials on the delivery.

OTHER

Mr. Kochian mentioned a couple of items for future consideration:

- Susan Orlean who wrote The Library is the 1st author in the upcoming FOCL Lecture Series. Mr. Kochian would like to consider having some tickets available for library staff and possibly some patrons within the County.
- Mr. Kochian will present background history on the Trosky Award at a future date.

Mr. Kochian is also working on the history of the Trustees' funds.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Edelstein made the following motion:

Be it Resolved, per Section 105 of the Public Officers Law, this Board should now move into executive session for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person.

Ms. Morgan-Baker seconded, the motion carried unanimously.
No action was taken.

Ms. Morgan-Baker moved to close executive session and reconvene in open session
Mr. Dodge seconded, the motion carried unanimously.

OTHER

Ms. Hurst-Wahl mentioned she would like to discuss the draft Vision Statement at a future board meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board thanked Mr. Dodge for his dedicated service on the OCPL Board, the Liverpool Board and all his involvement on various committees throughout his tenure.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dodge moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kochian seconded.
Ms. Hurst-Wahl adjourned the meeting at 5: 17 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Gail M. Cox
Administrative Assistant

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Beauchamp Branch * Betts Branch * Hazard Branch * Mundy Branch
Paine Branch * Petit Branch * Soule Branch * White Branch