Onondaga County Public



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MINUTES

OCPL Board of Trustees' Meeting September 20, 2023 Central Library, Board Room 4:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

Jill Hurst-Wahl Tim Mulvey

Ed Kochian Maria Mahar (Zoom)
Edda Kassis Christina Ondrako

ABSENT

Sam Edelstein Lynnore Fetyko

Babette Morgan-Baker

ALSO PRESENT

Robert Simmons III **Becky Maguire** Dawn Marmor **Sharon Rorer** Susan Reckhow (Zoom) Rene Batelle Tom Walters Kimberly Lighton (Zoom) Anonymous (Zoom/phone) Val Massulik Mark Carter Laura Keller Dane Dell Amanda Perrine Katie Hayduke Kim Schellinger

WELCOME

Jill Hurst-Wahl called the informational meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. (Due to lack of a quorum, this is an informational meeting only.)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Dawn Marmor introduced Robert Simmons III, who is the Head of Social Impact & STEM Programs for the Micron Foundation, and noted that his mother was a librarian.

Central Library located at 447 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13202-2494
Phone 315-435-1900 Fax 315-435-8533 www.onlib.org Dawn Marmor, Executive Director

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

In his role, Mr. Simmons' team does community engagement, social impact programs, and STEM programs. Micron has taken non-traditional approaches to STEM education since he started in his role two years ago. They have done training and events in Spanish, Mandarin, and other languages. He works to help translate Micron-ese into words and languages that people understand. STEM exists every day in the daily life of our communities, so they work to bring STEM education to the broader community. He worked with the MOST to create an interactive exhibit there, which has captured the attention of major media, the Smithsonian, and people in other countries. The STEM event at Liverpool Public Library was noted by other communities and has sparked interest in similar events.

He and Micron would like to find ways to work with all the libraries in the community. His question to us is: What we can do together? This is a STEM desert and he/Micron want to change that. One of the things he has worked to do is build bridges in the community and get organizations to work together.

Simmons then took questions from the Board and others in attendance. He noted again and again that Micron is open to proposals. Micron can take the lead but is also interested in being a partner.

PRE-READS/COMMENTS

- Dawn Marmor passed around a copy of the 2022 community annual report which is available in print and will be on the website. Having an annual report to the community is one of the minimum standards for NYS public libraries. She thanks all that were involved in its creation.
- The Central Library Family Cookbook 2023 was released last week. A copy was passed around. It will be available in the library for people to borrow.
- Dawn Marmor and Ed Kochian both noted that the Light a Candle for Literacy event, on Sept. 9, was spectacular. The attendance was very good and with good OCPL presence. Tom Walters was thanked for his help with publicity.
- The request for proposals (RFP) has been released and OCPL has received some inquiries.
- The System Retreat, which was held at the Everson Museum on Sept. 15 was mentioned by Dawn and Jill Hurst-Wahl.
- OCPL is moving forward on filling open positions.
- Dawn reported that she has no news on the Maintenance of Effort paperwork. The State Library has said that OCPL will receive a

- decision by the end of October.
- Jill Hurst-Wahl mentioned that she and Dawn are making suggestions on updates that could be made to the Library Director V position description. She has asked Ed Kochian to look through their edits. These suggestions will go to County Personnel for their review and approval.
- The discussion on the Executive Committee description is being delayed to when there are more Board members present.
- Jill Hurst-Wahl attended the County Executive's budget presentation with Mark Carter. She felt that a few of the proposed budget items could have links to the library.
- Amanda Perrine announced that Jackie Bleich is now president of the Member Council.
- Amanda Perrine talked about the Trustees Advisory Committee
 and asked that someone from the OCPL Board join this committee.
 Ed Kochian is interested, but it depends on when the meetings are
 held. Currently, the meetings are not held at a consistent time and
 Amanda is working to change that.
- Christina Ondrako asked the Board to read the investment policy before the next Board meeting. She hopes that it can be approved in October.
- Ed Kochian asked about the 2024 budget and that the amount in the County's document is larger than what OCPL has submitted. Mark Carter reported that the branch portion of the public PC replacement was added to the budget, rather than it coming out of the County's fund balance.
- Tim Mulvey asked about the resolution regarding construction funds from NYS and Ed Kochian asked specifically about how the funds are allocated. Amanda Perrine explained the process and the spirit of cooperation that exists to help libraries obtain more funds in specific years.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 5:28 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Jill Hurst-Wahl OCPL Board President