

DRAFT

Attendees: President Christy Cooper, Trustees Jeanne Hardy, Robin Greer, Laurie Waldron, Barbara Casper; Library Director Carla Piperno-Jones; Bookkeeper Scott Zippel

Absentee: Jim Young

Board President Christy Cooper called the regular board meeting to begin at 6:28 pm.

Old Business:

1. The January 18, 2023, Regular Board of Trustee minutes were reviewed. It was noted that Robin Greer made a motion to approve the January 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, and Jeanne Hardy seconded the motion. The motion was open for discussion. The Trustees voted 5 – 0, to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting.
2. The January 2023 Financial Report was reviewed. Bookkeeper Scott Zippel answered questions regarding revenues and expenditures.
Christy Cooper made a motion to approve the January Financial Report, Laurie Waldron seconded the motion. The motion was open for discussion. The Trustees voted 5 – 0, to approve the January 2023 Financial Officer's Report.
3. Carla Piperno-Jones presented the February 15, 2023, Director's Report.
 - A) Carla reviewed and explained the NY State Annual Report, and the summary draft of the report that will be shared in a pamphlet, entitled "Springport Free Library 2022 Statistics at a Glance" to be made available to the public. Trustees read and suggested edits to this pamphlet. They agreed that the contents included in the pamphlet provided an excellent overview of the State Report.
Carla also noted that NY State would like the Springport Board of Trustees to review and correct the current appointment of trustee, Barbara Casper, to a term that will expire in January 2024. Noting that the trustee will be able to be nominated for a full five-year term of appointment at that time, if desired. Carla also indicated that the Board of Trustees will need to review and address the current Springport Free Library's by-laws – 10.4 and 10.6 that indicate that the number of trustees necessary to approve a motion must be at least six members, and not by a majority of the trustees when a majority and not all members are present at the time of the meeting. The current number of trustees is currently six, which means that all members must be present to pass and approve any motion. This is a difficult quorum to attain, and it would be more advantageous to have a quorum established as a majority of current trustees in attendance.
The trustees discussed this concern and agreed that these two by-laws should be investigated and possibly amended at the next meeting. Carla will provide trustees with copies of the current bylaws so that they can be reviewed at the March 2023 Board of Trustees meeting. Once this is done, Carla will contact lawyers at the Finger Lakes Library System to verify the correct legal language which should be used if the trustees agree to amend the by-laws.

Robin Greer made a motion to approve the suggested changes that the Trustees agreed to regarding the State Annual, including the change of term for Barbara Casper to January 2024, and the "2022 Statistics at a Glance" pamphlet that summarizes key information from the State Report, that will be distributed to library patrons. Laurie Waldron seconded the motion. The motion was open to discussion. The Trustees voted 5 - 0 to approve the motion.

- B) Clara continued to present the February 2023 Director's Report. Among key items described and discussed by the trustees included Saxton Electric's interest in providing a quote for the replacement of the library ballasts, the installment of new smoke and CO2 Alarms, the ongoing craft projects for younger patrons, and an update on the payment for the approved carpet installation project, which will be scheduled for April 25 – 26, 2023.

Robin Greer made a motion to approve the February 2023 Director's Report. Laurie Waldron seconded the motion. The motion was discussed. The Trustees voted 5 – 0 to approve the motion.

New Business

1. The Board of Trustees discussed the desire to ask for annual public funds, as a proposition to the May 2023 Union Springs Central School District Budget Referendum. Trustees discussed the current financial climate, the impact of the library's services for the community, and the need to request public funding at an appropriate level that reflects responsible budgetary needs and constraints.

Robin Greer made a motion to send the Union Springs Central School District Board of Education a letter that proposes the following as part of the May 2023 School Budget Referendum: "Shall the sum of 92,000 Dollars (\$) (an increase of \$3,500 from \$88,500)) be raised by annual level of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Union Springs Central School District for the purpose of funding the Springport Fee Library" Laurie Waldron seconded the motion. The motion was open to additional discussion. The Trustees voted 5 – 0 to approve the motion.

Scott Zippel will be asked to deliver this letter to the Union Springs Superintendent's Office, to be shared with the Board of Education.

Board President Christy Cooper adjourned the regular meeting at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Casper

Recording Secretary