

DRAFT

Springport Free Library  
June 19, 2024  
Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Attendees: President Christy Cooper, Jeanne Hardy, Jim Young, Laurie Waldron, Barbara Casper; Library Director Carla Piperno-Jones

Board President, Christy Cooper called the regular board meeting to begin at 6:30 pm.

Old Business:

1. The May 15, 2024, Regular Board of Trustee meeting minutes was reviewed.  
Jeanne Hardy made a motion to accept the May 15, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes, and Laurie Waldron seconded the motion. The motion was open for discussion. The Trustees voted 5 – 0, to accept the minutes
2. The May 2024 Financial Report was reviewed. With the goal of decreasing costs, the Trustees discussed the possibility for the library to switch from a Post Office Box to a stand-alone mailbox that could be placed across the street from the Library on Cayuga Street/Rte. 90. Trustee President Christy Cooper will contact the local postmaster research this option and will report back to the trustees in July.  
Laurie Waldron made a motion to accept the May 2024 Financial Report, Jim Young seconded the motion. The motion was open for discussion. The Trustees voted 5 – 0 to accept the May 2024 Financial Report.
3. Library Director, Carla Piperno-Jones, presented the June 19, 2024, Director's Report.  
Highlighted items included:
  - With the addition of Chessie the Therapy Goat, the fourth summer reading evening program has been secured. This program will be the kick-off program. The entire summer program has also been posted on Facebook.
  - Carla shared her appreciation to Penny Ross for her help with printing out the prepared summer reading program flyer so that the USCSD teachers can place a copy in each report card at the end of the school year. Trustees also shared their appreciation to Penny.
  - The summer on-line "Page Turners" programs has also begun with participants making a duct tape beach bag. Trustees who also participated indicated this activity was fun. The coming programs should be just as enjoyable.
  - Pending good weather, Heather and Carla will soon be posting this year's "story walk" at Frontenac Park. This outdoor venue expands the reach of the library services.
  - Carla shared her appreciation to the Union Springs School District and the community members for promoting and passing the May 21, 2024, 2024-2025 USCSD Budget Referendum Proposition #3, to help fund our library programs and services in the coming year. Carla provided copies of the final tally of the vote, sent to her by the Union Springs Business Office. Members of the Board of Trustees also shared their appreciation for the support of the school district and the community. Their support provides the essential funding for the library's broad range of services and a local community space for all district residents.

- Carla shared her appreciation for two community members who have been volunteering to help beautify the front lawn of the library. Berneta Terry has provided help with our gardens and has planted orange day lilies in front of the library's historical marker. Kevin Nolan has volunteered to help "trim and tame" the growing yew shrubs. Trustees also shared their appreciation to Berneta and Kevin for volunteer their time and services.
- Carla announced that three Make and Take craft kits for children and families have been distributed. All three kit activities - rock art faces, button art, and paper plate fish, have been a great success. Children have taken kits home and have also enjoyed creating kit projects in the library's play space. Photos of these crafty moments have been posted on Facebook.

Christy Cooper made a motion to accept the June 19, 2024, Director's Report. Jeanne Hardy seconded the motion. The motion was discussed. The Trustees voted 5 – 0 to accept the Director's Report.

New Business:

1. Carla provided the Trustees with a copy of the Small Project Fund Interest Form. This is the first step in securing funds from the recently opened Downtown Revitalization Initiative Forward Grant funds. Trustee President, Christy Cooper agreed to complete this form. The trustees agreed to request \$41,000, which would equal approximately 75% of the rough estimates of \$40,000 from Yantch Plaster and Stucco System, and \$15,000 for basement and foundation repair from associated contractors. Trustee President, Christy Cooper will submit this form to the DRI Local Planning Committee.
2. In reference to the data from the recent USCSD Budget vote, Library Director, Carla Piperno-Jones has asked the library trustees to contemplate and investigate how to improve how the public is informed and understands the library's budget proposition. In recent years, the library has not been able to provide additional information within the USCSD Budget Information Pamphlet to help explain the library tax proposition. Since this change, the support of the voters has been slowly declining. The trustees discussed variables that may have contributed to this trend. The trustees discussed the recent inability to show an approximate estimate of how the tax rate may affect the average cost per household within the district flyer. The trustees also discussed how within the district budget information flyers, the library has been unable to provide valuable data – such as from the library's Annual Report which is submitted to the NY State Library each year. Such data shows how essential tax dollars have benefitted USCSD residents. It was agreed that library trustees will investigate additional methods and media outlets that can be used to explain future library funding propositions included in USCSD budget referendums to district voters. It can be done in a way that celebrates both the supportive community and the many services that the library provides to all district residents.

Board President Christy Cooper adjourned the regular meeting at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Casper

Recording Secretary