

# Farmington Libraries since 1901

## Library Board Minutes

November 20, 2024

**Attendees:** Dana Pescatello, Alan Sherman, Henry Gu, Lyman Louis, Rich Olivastro, Celia Bouza, Trish Garcia, Jocelyn Kennedy, Kate Martorelli, Ida Franklin, Gary Ontko, Vanitha Patil, Norma Hartley, Linda Chapron

**Not Present:** Keith Vibert (Town Liaison)

**Guests, New Board Members:** Brian Lindroth, Elisabeth Umpleby

**Quorum:** A quorum was determined. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment:** There were no members of the public present, and consequently, no public comments were made.

**Approval of the September Meeting Minutes:** Lyman moved, and Rich seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved with 1 correction.

### Board Chair Report:

Dana updated the board of the strategic planning progress. She also reminded the board of the FVGLA Gala which will be held on December 6 at Barney Library.

### Votes to Elect New Board Members:

The board held a vote to elect Brian Lindroth as new board member. Rich moved; Celia seconded. With all in favor, Brian was elected as the new board trustee.

The board held a vote to elect Elisabeth Umpleby as new board member. Rich moved; Gary seconded. With all in favor, Elisabeth was elected as the new board trustee.

### Executive Director Report:

Jocelyn updated the board on recent programs and new initiatives:

- The library is developing new maker services and programs for children, tweens, and teens. Jocelyn is also seeking to build connections with local manufacturers and businesses to support the Maker Fair and the Maker Space.
- The library is piloting the creation of adaptive spaces and programming for children with special needs.
- New temporary signage will be launched at the beginning of December.
- The library is partnering with the Unionville Museum to ensure a complete collection of Farmington High School yearbooks.
- The library is collaborating with the town's Economic Development department and local artists to explore ways to support artists in Farmington.
- The library is working with the town to bring the Human Library to Farmington.

- Jocelyn is also coordinating with neighboring towns on the America 250 lecture series, focusing on achievements of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Jocelyn provided an update on staffing changes at the library, which included the departure of Pattie Purcell and Sharon Mazzochi, and the addition of Katie Steele to the children's department. She also informed the board about the planned retirement of Ericka, the director of the children's department. Additionally, Jocelyn discussed the impact of Monique's remote working arrangement and expressed confidence that it is a workable solution.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Friends of the Library:** The Friends have funded \$3,700 for the library's upcoming Maker Fair in March and Tween programming. They also continue to donate books to various community organizations. Additionally, a "Holiday Book" booknook sale will run throughout December. The Friends have recently formed a partnership with New Horizons Village to provide the facility with books, games, and puzzles.

**Facilities & Infrastructure Committee:** As per recommendations from FVGLA committee experts, solar panels will not be considered as part of the infrastructure planning. Three architecture/engineering consulting firms have been identified for the facility assessment study. Gary and Jocelyn have finalized the scope of the work and will submit it to the identified consulting firms for proposals.

**Bylaws:** The Bylaws committee met twice and is working on recommending changes for the board to consider.

### **Other Business:**

The board approved wine being served on December 5 at the main library as part of the Friends meeting with Rich moved, Gary seconded, all in favor.

The board approved wine being served on December 6 at the Barney library as part of the FVGLA gala with Lyman moved, Norma seconded and all in favor.

The board approved a \$5250 expenditure to deep clean the Barney Library in late December/early January with Vanitha moved, Celia seconded and all in favor.

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm. Dana moved to adjourn, seconded by Brian.

Next Board Meeting: December 18, 2024 at 7:00pm.