

**Monroe County Library System  
Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Rundel Memorial Building Board Room  
Minutes  
April 16, 2018**

**Trustees Present:** Corcoran, D’Aurizio, Guttmacher, Knapp, Shelly, Stockman, Thompson, Wolf, Yust  
**Trustees Excused:** Brandt, Lovenheim  
**Staff and Guests:** Chad Krohn; Monroe County Law Department Liaison, Brett Granville; Staff members Brinkman, Davis, Harrison, Reeves, Snow, Uttaro, Boldt

**Call to Order**

Mr. Wolf called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m., and welcomed trustees and guests.

**Public Comments**

Chad Krohn addressed the Board regarding his desire to “destroy the language barrier between deaf and hearing individuals.” He explained that he teaches American Sign Language via Snap Chat, and is exploring creative ways to grow his audience. He proposed partnering with public libraries, and briefly described mutual benefits he perceives, such as reciprocal web links that could potentially increase social media audiences for both entities. He responded to questions from trustees, and Ms. Uttaro explained that each of the member libraries is separately funded and governed; she offered to connect Mr. Krohn with member library directors and librarians to help them gain a better understanding of his work, and confirmed that her office has Mr. Krohn’s contact information. Mr. Krohn indicated that he would be pleased to meet with library representatives to further explore potential opportunities for collaboration. Mr. Wolf and Ms. Uttaro thanked Mr. Krohn for attending today’s meeting.

**Welcome Christopher Corcoran!**

Mr. Wolf introduced recently appointed trustee, Christopher Corcoran, an attorney in private practice with the firm, Wiedman, Vazzana, Corcoran & Volta, PC. Mr. Corcoran remarked that he has known Mr. Wolf for many years, and was very pleased to have been appointed to this Board.

***Action Items***

**Special Recognition**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Dr. Knapp AND SECONDED BY Mr. Wolf to recognize and congratulate Ms. Uttaro on her selection as a “Woman of Excellence” by the *Rochester Business Journal* and as a recipient of a “Big Pencil Award” from Writers & Books, in recognition of her as an individual “who keeps literature alive and well in the Flower City.” THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Meeting Minutes**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Ms. Thompson AND SECONDED BY Dr. Guttmacher to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2018 meeting (Documents Book). THE MOTION PASSED with seven in favor and two abstentions (Ms. D’Aurizio and Mr. Corcoran, who were not present at the March meeting).

**Claims**

Ms. Harrison called attention to the financial Claims dated February 9, 23 and 26, 2018 included with the packet, reviewed highlights and responded to questions (Documents Book). A MOTION WAS MADE BY Dr. Knapp AND SECONDED BY Ms. D’Aurizio to approve the Claims as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **Report Items**

### **MCLS Liaison to RPL Board**

Mr. Wolf reported that at its March meeting, the RPL Board of Trustees had voted to name the renovated art gallery space in the Rundel Memorial Building's Harold Hacker Hall in honor of Anthony Mascioli. Mr. Wolf explained that this action was taken in recognition of Mr. Mascioli's bequest of approximately \$500,000 to RPL via the Friends and Foundation of RPL. Mr. Davis noted that approximately \$250,000 of the funds were employed in the renovation of Harold Hacker Hall, adding that Mr. Mascioli had been a long-time library lover and supporter of the arts.

### **Friends and Foundation of RPL**

Mr. Davis announced that proceeds from the recent three-day Huge Book Sale event held over the St. Patrick's Day weekend totaled approximately \$7,500. He noted that this was above last year's total, in spite of eliminating Sunday from the duration of the sale. He further reported that proceeds from sales on Saturday surpassed last year's combined total for Saturday and Sunday (totaling approximately \$2,000). Mr. Davis noted that staff from the Outreach/Extension Department as well as representatives from other local non-profit agencies were invited to take whatever they wished, with any final leftovers donated to Goodwill. He expressed gratitude to the many volunteers who assisted with this effort.

Mr. Davis reported that thanks to the FFRPL Strategic Plan, the Annual Campaign process had been re-evaluated, resulting in approximately 50% fewer letters being mailed for the current campaign, while proceeds are currently ahead of last year's at this time and total approximately \$185,000. The *Rochester Reads* collaboration with Writers and Books featuring Reyna Grande, author of **The Distance Between Us** proved to be highly popular throughout the community; Mr. Davis noted that approximately 115 attended the event hosted in Kate Gleason Auditorium, and Writers & Books staff reported record-breaking attendance for her several local appearances. Mr. Davis noted that approximately 75 individuals attended the recent Anthony Mascioli Rainbow Dialogues, a one-day archival records conference featuring a keynote speaker from the Smithsonian Institution. He added that this initiative represented a successful collaboration among FFRPL, the Local History & Genealogy Division, and the Out Alliance (formerly the Gay Alliance). He added that LGBTQ archival materials are in the process of being transferred to the library from the Out Alliance's collection. Mr. Davis explained that the event had been named in honor of Anthony Mascioli in recognition of his generous bequest to the library, as previously noted.

Mr. Davis announced that a presentation by Jennifer Pharr Davis, *National Geographic* Adventurer of the Year, long distance hiker, and author of **The Pursuit of Endurance: Harnessing the Record-Breaking Power of Strength and Resilience** was scheduled for Saturday, April 21 in Kate Gleason Auditorium. Although her book has not yet been released for sale to the public, he reported that copies would be available for purchase at this event. He further reported that FFRPL had purchased eight Empire Passes for New York State Park admission to be included in the MCLS VIP (Very Important Places) Pass program. He invited all to attend the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Sokol High School Literary Awards and Reception scheduled for May 3 at 4 p.m. in Kate Gleason Auditorium. He also encouraged everyone to spread the word about the Libraries After Dark event, *May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be With You*, scheduled to be held from 9 p.m. to midnight on May 4 at the Central Library; tickets are on sale for \$10 each via Eventbrite.com. He added that this was the first of four planned Libraries After Dark events made possible by a Harold Hacker Fund for the Advancement of Libraries grant, with matching support from FFRPL.

### **Rochester Regional Library Council**

Dr. Knapp reported that although the RRLC Board had not met in April, Library of the Year contest voting was underway; the winners will be announced at RRLC's annual luncheon meeting at Casa Larga Vineyards in June.

### **Director's Report**

Ms. Uttaro reported that she had learned over the weekend of the recent passing of Bernard Margolis, the New York State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries noting that his family had requested that in lieu of flowers, any donations in his memory be directed to local libraries. Ms. Uttaro reported that Margo Gustina and Eli Guinnee had been engaged as consultants in connection with the process of reviewing the operational governing structure and relationship between MCLS and its member libraries, and identifying the future direction for the system over the next five to ten years. Following up on discussion at the March Board meeting, Ms. Uttaro noted that the consultants would visit in May to meet with MCLS system staff, member library directors, and selected member library staff as part of this process. She shared brief bios of the two, noting that in addition to their consulting work, both have extensive track records working with library systems; Ms. Gustina is currently Deputy Director of the Southern Tier Library System, and Eli Guinnee is currently Executive Director of the Chautauqua Cattaraugus Library System. Ms. Uttaro added that she would update the trustees as these meetings occur. Ms. Uttaro further reported that the closing date for Secretary to the Library Director applications was April 19; she noted that candidate interviews would likely be scheduled for May – June, as Ms. Boldt was planning to retire in August. She explained that since this position supports both the MCLS and RPL Boards of Trustees, it would be helpful to have one trustee from each board participate in the interview process. She invited trustees to contact President Wolf if interested. In response to questions, Ms. Uttaro explained that in accordance with Civil Service laws, the chosen candidate would be provisionally appointed until such time as a test for the position is administered. In response to an additional inquiry, she reported that the position had been advertised on the City, County, and RRLC websites, as well as via social media.

### **Town Libraries**

Ms. Brinkman called attention to her written report, noting that there had been well over 1,700 uses of the *Rochester Reads* featured title in electronic audio book format during the two months that MCLS had offered simultaneous borrowings around the related local events. She added that the Henrietta Public Library's building project was proceeding well, and a successful groundbreaking event was held on March 20.

### **MCLS Services**

Ms. Snow reported on passage of the New York State budget, noting that the 2018-19 budget includes \$34 million in total public library construction aid, which is \$10 million more than last year, and \$20M more than had been initially included in the Governor's budget proposal. She explained that this would translate to approximately \$1.2 million in aid for MCLS; preliminary indications are that four member libraries in addition to the Central Library may apply for a portion of these funds. Following up on Ms. Brinkman's report regarding the simultaneous e-audiobook use of the featured *Rochester Reads* title, Ms. Snow noted that each publisher sets its own rules and prices for e-content access to its titles. She added that as an example, this particular publisher had only allowed simultaneous use of the e-audiobook, rather than the e-book (text). Ms. Brinkman noted that many of the town directors were pleased with this level of usage, and look forward to exploring purchase of the simultaneous use license for specific featured titles around future special events. Ms. Snow reported that member libraries were in the process of ordering VIP (Very Important Places) passes, adding that she anticipated that the New York State Park passes provided by Friends and Foundation of RPL, as previously noted, would be very popular.

### **Central Library Reports**

Ms. Snow reported that she recently had the opportunity to meet with three gentlemen who have used Carlson Patent & Trademark Center resources. She explained that they were highly enthusiastic about their business project, and very grateful for free access to the library's resources that they recognized as having saved them significant time and research costs. Ms. Snow noted that she has encouraged staff to

invite satisfied patrons to contact their elected representatives – at all levels - to express how beneficial the library has been either for either their personal or business pursuits, and the high priority they place on continued funding support for the library. Ms. Snow announced that FFRPL had purchased a new Glowforge 3-D laser printer that is significantly more sophisticated than the library’s current 3-D printer. She explained that among its features is the capacity to engrave on a wide variety of materials (including chocolate); the machine will be demonstrated at the *May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be With You* event, and will ultimately be housed in the Chester Carlson Patent & Trademark Center. Mr. Yust commended Brandon Fess (Local History and Genealogy) for providing excellent, highly knowledgeable customer service during his recent search for an obituary.

Dr. Reeves called attention to her written report, and offered to respond to any questions (Documents Book). She updated trustees on youth services staffing, noting that Dennis Williams had transferred to Teen Central (from the Winton Branch Library); and that moving forward, Tonia Burton would focus exclusively on children’s services. Dr. Reeves further reported that Ms. Burton was working with Rochester ChildFirst Network participants to develop Pyramid Model training appropriate for the library environment. Dr. Reeves called attention to invitations distributed at the meeting for the upcoming anniversary party, scheduled for May 24, celebrating the first year of the new Teen Central operations. She invited all to attend this very special event.

**Other Business**

Ms. Thompson reported that at its meeting earlier this week, the Henrietta Public Library’s Board of Trustees had voted to adopt an Opioid Overdose Prevention Policy to facilitate appropriate staff training for the stocking and administration of naloxone. She added that this policy had been initially proposed by staff members (rather than by library management or the board), demonstrating the staff’s genuine concern for the safety of all those who visit the library.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Uttaro, Secretary