

Brunswick Community Library Annual Meeting of Members

January 19, 2021

Attendees: Dan Casale, Ann Clemente, Laurel Colasurdo, Maureen Cox, Alix Duggan, Marthe Ann Gabey, Sara Hopkins, Tom Mahoney, Jen Mainello, Kevin Mainello, Matt Perfetti, Anne Poletto, Jennifer Shatz, Kelley Triscari

Excused: Derek Foster

Call to order 6:02 PM

Note: This was a virtual meeting

The meeting notice that was posted at Brunswick Town Hall and the Brunswick Community Library was read by Anne Poletto.

Approval of Minutes of January 21, 2020 -- Motion to accept by Ann Clemente; seconded by Laurel Colasurdo; per roll call vote, all in favor; motion carried.

President's Report -- Ann Clemente commented that a lot of great work was done – there were new PCs, a construction project, and a charter change. Ann went through some of the monthly highlights. In March, a new hot water tank was installed, the insulation for the bathroom walls was mounted, and the Paycheck Protection Program loan was approved. In June, curb side pickups started and the library staff resumed their regular hours; the construction was started, after the Friends' group moved the plants to the other side of the building; there was an addition to the Library "family", making Jen Mainello a first-time mom and Kevin Mainello a first-time grandfather. In July, Laurel's husband, John, moved new chairs to the library and the construction continued. In October, the Annual Appeal went out, the construction project finished, and the Friends' group moved the plants back. In November, a new mission statement was adopted and the Charter change approved; Jenn Shatz updated the by-laws. Ann noted that all decisions made during the year were appropriate. She thanked the staff for all their work. She said she was proud of how the trustees responded during the year. Ann wished all the best.

Nominating Committee Report – There were no nominations from the floor. The nominating committee presented Tom Mahoney, Jen Mainello, and Kelley Triscari as new trustees and the roll-call vote was unanimously in favor. Derek Foster had withdrawn as a candidate to pursue business interests. The committee nominated, Laurel Colasurdo and Kevin Mainello to their second three-year term. The roll-call vote was unanimously in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Maureen Cox reported that we closed out on a reasonably good note. We received an extra 2% from the Town. We received a PPP loan, that was completely forgiven. The Annual Appeal was successful. This is the last year on the

mortgage. We had a huge capital improvement project of over \$100,000 and are still waiting on the final payments from the two construction grants. We were awarded another grant for 2021 for a second bathroom. The money is well spent and managed. We are in a better place that we would have expected.

Library Director's Report – Sara Hopkins noted that it's a partial report since not all the statistics have been received from Upper Hudson Library System. Due to the Covid pandemic, the numbers can't be compared to last year. The Wi-Fi is still being used, although the library is closed. Before the closure, there were 19 programs with 1962 in attendance. The digital programs have had 76 in attendance. There were 480 STEAM kits and 343 book/movie bundles distributed. The physical items checked out were only slightly less than last year, while the digital checkouts were way up. A NewsBank service has replaced Ancestry, which had minimal usage and was expensive. The new service allows access to the Albany Times Union, as well as other scientific and educational resources. The online videos had over 10,000 views, but have decreased over time as digital fatigue is setting in. The 2020 construction project has resulted in an open, airy adult fiction section, as well as circulation desk. The library feels so much bigger. Thanks to Alix Duggan and her husband, all the shelves are movable. We hope to get a fourth shelving unit. Sara has received many photos, calls, and thank-you notes in appreciation of the STEAM kits and everything else being done. The social media stats have leveled off, but we are still doing well. There are online clubs for gardening, cooking, and bibliophiles. Raffles are being held on Facebook. In response to the Covid pandemic, NYLA is trying to have library staff included with educational staff for vaccination. They are recommending to keep buildings closed. Most libraries in the UHLS are curbside only, with a few being closed completely. Less than half are offering extremely limited building access.

President's Closing Remarks – Ann Clemente noted that the library has a good relationship with the Town and Sara Hopkins keeps them updated. As an example, we weren't charged permit fees for the construction project. She hopes that will continue. Ann wanted the trustees to thank their families for all their support. She thanked the board as well.

Adjournment -- meeting adjourned at 6:40, motioned by Ann Clemente; seconded by Maureen Cox; per roll call vote, all in favor, motion carried. Marthe Ann Gabey thanked Ann Clemente for her service as president.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne G Poletto