

Northern New York Library Network
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 17, 2022
Zoom Video Conference

The March 17, 2022 meeting of the Northern New York Library Network Board of Trustees was called to order at 10:03 A.M.

Trustees Present: Andrew Kelly, President; Steve Kenworthy, Secretary; Ginger Tebo, Treasurer; Ellen Adams; Krista Briggs; Gwen Cunningham; Jeff Garvey; Erin Kovalsky; Jackie Madison; Paulette Roes; Jenica Rogers; Jill Tarabula and John Thomas.

Staff Present: Meg Backus and Phil Jones.

Agenda

Motion 21/22--25: Steve Kenworthy (Jackie Madison) moved to approve the agenda for the March 17, 2022 meeting as distributed. Carried unanimously.

Minutes

Motion 21/22--26: Ellen Adams (Erin Kovalsky) moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2022 meeting as distributed. Carried unanimously.

Financial Reports

The Board reviewed and discussed the financial statements for December 2021 and January 2022. Staff responded to a number of general questions posed by Board members regarding the monthly statements.

Motion 21/22--27: Jill Tarabula (Jeff Garvey) moved to accept the financial statements for December 2021 and January 2022 as distributed. Carried unanimously.

Director's Review

Board members discussed the Executive Director's annual review process and timeline.

Director Report

Meg Backus noted her written report was included in the Board packet. Highlights of current issues include:

The current in-house queue of newspaper microfilm will take us through August 2022. Using a no-code platform, Chuck Henry designed an application for tracking microfilm from the time it is shipped to us to the final website mounting. The application also provides a public-facing view of the queue, allowing contributing organizations the ability to track the progress of their microfilm.

Adirondack Health Institute (AHI) extended an invitation for NNYLN to join the North Country Digital Inclusion Coalition, an effort funded by the New York Digital Inclusion Fund. The planning grant is designed to form partnerships that are diverse enough to identify a full range of digital inclusion needs and potential solutions. Heavy emphasis is on telehealth. The group is excited about Senior Planet in public libraries and have indicated they will help promote those classes.

In January, recipients of NNYLN's Special Collection and Action grants submitted mid-year reports. SUNY Potsdam has indicated they require additional equipment to support their Baccalaureate Degree program at Riverview Correctional Facility. They are currently pursuing additional funding from other sources but are coming up short. The original NNYLN award was for \$8,770. Meg requested the Board's authorization to increase their award to the maximum amount of \$12,000. There are sufficient funds in the line item Grants to Member Libraries.

Motion 21/22--28: Jill Tarabula (Steve Kenworthy) moved to authorize increasing SUNY Potsdam's grant to \$12,000. Motion carried. Jenica Rogers recused herself due to a conflict of interest.

We are on track with our ARPA projects. Twenty people enrolled in training for the Senior Planet curriculum, representing 15 public libraries and 3 library systems (including NNYLN). Training wraps up on March 17 and then we have a few weeks of planning before moving into the final stage of libraries holding programs. Participating libraries have until the end of the year to hold public programs.

NNYLN's 57th Annual Meeting will be held virtually 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Thursday, May 5, 2022. The agenda includes introductions of staff, Board members and the Award for Excellence in Library Service. Guest speaker will be Dr. Michael Norton Chief Policy Analyst at Reinvestment Fund. He will present "Nurturing the Wellbeing of Small Town America, One Library and One Town at a Time".

The NYS budget is anticipated to be on-time this year. Senate and Assembly budget proposals for 2022-2023 are coming in higher than the Executive:

	Executive	Senate	Assembly
Library Aid	\$96.1M	\$123.1M	\$106.1M
Library Construction	\$14M	\$45M	\$34M

A meeting of the NNYLN Budget Committee will be scheduled to work on the 2022-2023 budget. Committee members are: Ginger Tebo, Chair; Jeff Garvey and Jenica Rogers.

Meeting Dates 2021-2022

Board members agreed to the final meeting date for 2021-2022.

May 12, 2022 10:00 A.M. - Zoom Video Conference

Adjournment

The Board meeting was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

The March 17, 2022 meeting minutes were approved at the May 12, 2022 meeting.

◆ Next Board Meeting ◆
May 12, 2022, Thursday, 10:00 AM
Zoom Video Conference