

Northern New York Library Network
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 18, 2021
Zoom Video Conference

The March 18, 2021 meeting of the Northern New York Library Network Board of Trustees was called to order at 10:05 A.M.

Trustees Present: Andrew Kelly, President; Steve Kenworthy, Secretary; Ginger Tebo, Treasurer; Ellen Adams; Michelle Bishop; Krista Briggs; Gwen Cunningham; Ivy Gocker; Jill Tarabula and John Thomas.

Trustees Absent: Jeff Garvey, Susan Mitchell and Jenica Rogers.

Staff Present: Meg Backus and Phil Jones.

Agenda

Motion 20/21--26: Steve Kenworthy (Krista Briggs) moved to approve the March 18, 2021 meeting Agenda as distributed. Carried unanimously.

Minutes

Motion 20/21--27: Andrew Kelly (Jill Tarabula) moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting as distributed. Carried unanimously.

Financial Statements

The Board reviewed the financial statements for December 2020, January 2021 and February 2021.

Motion 20/21--28: John Thomas (Michelle Bishop) moved to accept the December 2020, January 2021 and February 2021 financial statements as distributed. Carried unanimously.

Five Year Library System Plan of Service 2021-2026

The Board reviewed and discussed the Northern New York Library Network Five Year Library System Plan of Service 2021-2026.

Motion 20/21--29: Ginger Tebo (Jill Tarabula) moved to approve the Northern New York Library Network Five Year Library System Plan of Service 2021 to 2026 as presented. Carried unanimously.

Hospital Library Program Proposals 2021-22

Item tabled for consideration at the May 13, 2021 meeting.

Director Report

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

The preliminary proposal NNYLN submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for a National Leadership Grant in the "Research in Service to Practice" funding category has been invited for full consideration. The application is due March 26, 2021 and award notifications will be released in July 2021. Funding for the three year project would be approximately \$300,000. The majority of the funding would go to researchers, with NNYLN receiving \$30,000 to \$40,000 for project administration.

We have begun initial exploration of support we may be able to offer members for digital asset management (DAMS).

Meg participated in a "Virtual Roundtable on Library Funding Needs" on March 3, 2021, held by committees in both the State Senate and the Assembly, a first since Senator Hugh Farley retired in 2016.

The 2021-2022 state budget includes a proposal that acknowledges the role libraries play in providing digital equity. A statewide grant program has been proposed that would provide funds to libraries and other community-based organizations seeking to provide digital inclusion programs.

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) designates \$200 million in pandemic response funding for IMLS. The funding will enable IMLS to provide critical funding to libraries nationwide so that they can continue to respond to the COVID-19 emergency.

The Governor's executive 2021-2022 budget proposes a 7.1% cut in library aid, the Senate's proposal offers no increase from the previous year and the Assembly is proposing a 2.3% increase over the previous year.

Executive Director's Annual Review

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

Next Meeting Dates

Board members agreed to the proposed next meeting date for 2020-2021:

May 13, 2021 Thursday 10:00 A.M. – Zoom video

Adjournment

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

The March 18, 2021 meeting minutes were approved at the May 13, 2021 meeting.

◆ Next Board Meeting ◆

May 13, 2021, Thursday, 10:00 AM
Zoom Video Conference