

Board of Trustees meeting on December 18, 2023

Present: Kris Ely, Stephen Spero, Fred Cicilioni, Brian Lione, Jim O'Pecko, Joann Reimel, Eileen Baessler, George Conner, Ann Reed, Vicky Calby, Craig Benson, Kathy Matis, Dawn Augenti, William Squier

Absent: Cathy Harter (excused), Chris Caterson, Angie Zick

Call to Order: Steve Spero called the meeting to order at 4:00PM and welcomed guests to the meeting. This meeting was held at the Montrose library.

Steve noted that each member received a folder containing form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax), the board fraud policy and the board conflict of interest policy.

A motion was made to approve the November 2023 minutes. The motion was approved.

A motion was made to approve the written reports. The motion was approved.

An email vote was taken to approve Juneteenth as a paid holiday, this was approved by the board. This brings us to 13 paid holidays. It was noted that the appropriate policies should be updated, and that the holiday closing should be posted on our website and on each location's page.

Four trustees were approved to sign checks. They are Stephen Spero, Rob Vermette, Margaret (Peg) Miller, and Eileen Baessler. This will be effective on January 1st, 2024. First National Bank requires Board approval of these signatures. All checks must be signed by 2 Board members.

The fraud policy was presented and approved.

There was a proposal to accept the 2024 meeting schedule. A motion was made and approved.

Karen Braker-Reed presented her report on the Children's Library activities.

Public comment: Dylan Reed, son of out-going Board member Ann Reed, thanked the Board and staff of the SCHSFLA for all that they do for the community.

Three members of the Board of Trustees were acknowledged for their multiple terms of service. The members leaving their positions were Chris Caterson, George Conner, and Ann Reed. Each of these members was presented with a parting gift.

Finances: Kathy Matis

The finance committee recommended withdrawing \$45K to cover expenses leading into the new year. A motion was made to accept this decision. The motion was approved. This was necessitated due to the early pay period of January 4, 2024. The State Aid will arrive in February and the Susan Olszewski Stone Endowment and Janney account monies will come in mid-January.

There was a discussion to approve the budget for 2024. It was noted that it included an average wage raise of 4% and that additional fundraising would be needed to cover this expense. A motion was made to approve the budget and the motion was approved.

Historical Society facility update: Brian Leone

1. 3 Air conditioning units need to be replaced.
2. The outdoor steps at the front entrance need to be fixed or replaced.
3. Window replacement is still on the agenda. We are getting bids and will try to get a grant for this project.
4. Electrical system upgrade: the current panels are good but the receptacles need upgrading.
5. Requests for bids will be sent out in 2024.
6. There are wooden shelving units that might be able to be repurposed for the Forest City Library. Fred Cicilioni and Brian Leone will pursue this.

The next meeting is in Montrose on January 16, 2024 at 4:00 PM.



James A. O'Pecko - Recording Secretary