

**VALATIE FREE LIBRARY**  
**Minutes of August 15, 2022**

Meeting came to order at 5:03pm

**Present:**

Trustees: Emilia Teasdale, Shirley Kelly, Kristi Berner, Jill Leinung, Meg Todisco, Melissa Schieren

Excused absence: Vivian Becker

Library: Director Elizabeth Powhida

Member of the public: Laura Rogers

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Trustees Leinung/Kelly to approve the minutes from the July meeting carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Kelly presented the July monthly report, including:

- we are at 60% of our budget, which is right on schedule
- we had more expenses this month, most of that is insurance payments
- our bookkeeper needs to pay federal government and social security (not included in this report)
- Treasurer Kelly attended a gathering at the Bank of Green County for the organizations they gave grants to. She collected \$1,000 grant check there, which will help pay for the new electrical panel and new outlets
- we are now on a monthly budget plan for heating oil, which is 25 cents less a gallon than what we have been paying. However, because we now pay monthly with the budget plan starting immediately, the timing of our expenses are shifting, and we will be over budget for heating oil this year. (Kudos to Treasurer Kelly for asking questions and discovering we could save this large amount on heating oil!)
- the mowers are coming every week, we have budgeted \$2,000, and we've paid \$624 through July.

Motion of Trustees Berner/Schieren to approve the Treasurer's Report carried.

**Director's Report**

- Ron Rich came and trimmed the path to the bike trail
- Our budget for programming is exhausted for the year, with about \$75 left. She said the expenses for the summer program party was about \$149.
- About 80 people attended the summer program party; we received many compliments for the summer program; everyone seemed to enjoy the party, with some families playing games outside.
- Treasurer Kelly said we have \$500 remaining the newsletter fund and possibly some extra money in the supply fund, which could be transferred to programming.
- President Teasdale said if there is a big program the library wants to do, we will look for the money.
- Wifi is being expanded outside at no cost to the library.
- The library received a \$1,000 donations from a patron Fran Fullerton (former board member) for a bike rack for the library in honor of her father.
- the board will research bike racks.

- the \$1,000 check will go into capital funds.
- the summer program report will be available at the September meeting.
- Columbia County Library Associates are running one table at the Columbia County fair - Sunday, Sept. 4th from 9:30 to 3:30pm.
- Director Powhida announced her exact retirement date will be Thursday, Dec. 22nd, which is the end of a pay period.

A motion to accept Director Powhida's resignation by Trustees Kelly/Leinung passed.

Vice President Leinung will talk to Rebekka at MidHudson about possible candidates for Library Director.

### **Old Business**

1. 414 - we need to prepare talking points - how to get people out to vote. Remind them to flip over the ballot.
  - Possible Q & A sheet.
  - Vice President Leinung will research cost of yard signs that we could use year after year.
  - We can put the sandwich board by the road when it is closer to Election Day.
  - The library cannot solicit votes.
  - We should ask friends of the library to write letters to the editors (board members cannot write letters.)
2. Video Conference Resolution  
Tabled until September meeting

### **New Business**

1. New board candidate - Laura Rogers introduced herself and provided her resume
2. Village Events for book sales - board members needed to work the table
  - September 17th - Noon to 5pm -Valatie Ocktoberfest - Main Street
  - October 1st - Villagewide Tag Sale -Library parking lot
  - October 8th - Fall Fest - Main Street
  - October 22nd - possibly our own book sale at the library?

### **Other Business**

None.

### **Trustee Concerns**

Vice President is attending a legislative meeting in two weeks. The next Mid-Hudson meeting is in September.

### **Executive Session**

Trustees Kelly/Schieren made a motion to go into Executive Session which carried

### **After Executive Session**

A motion by Trustees Leinung/Kelly to accept Laura Rogers as a new board member carried.

**Meeting Close**

Motion to adjourn by Trustees Berner/Schieren at 6:13 pm carried.

Next meeting: September 19, 2022 at 7pm.

Minutes submitted by Kristi Berner.