

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board Meeting Agenda

Feb. 15, 2023 -- 4pm

Agenda:

Review of Minutes emailed

Correspondence:

Treasurer Report: Kitty Crow

Librarian Report: Graham Tedesco-Blair

Curator Report: Max Walters

Town Representative: Chris Schaeffer

Village Representative: Michelle Twichell

Old Business: Project Pomfret, health insurance policy review

New Business: Fundraising training for 2023

Calendar:

Adjourn:

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board of Trustees Meeting

Jan. 18, 2023 – 4pm

Present: Jeff Adams, Max Walters, Graham Tedesco-Blair, Linda Prechtl, Mark Twichell, Kitty Crow, Kathy Petersen, Jon Weekly, David Dengler, Pat Stokes

Village Representative: absent

Town Representative: Chris Schaeffer

Review Minutes Emailed: Linda moves to accept, Mark 2nds, passed

Correspondence: none

Treasurer Report: Kitty reviews new report format, & will review complete reports quarterly. Graham has sent budget to BLB. Audit will be done by Johnson-Mackowiak in May. Any possible grant monies should be reported separately from operating expenses. Kathy moves to accept, Dave 2nds, passed

Librarian Report: written plus: Gugino Plumbing checked heating systems. Precision Cleaners will provide quote for duct cleaning. CCLS is willing to provide assistance to museum with projects. Graham presented Case Statement draft. Jon moves to accept reports, Pat 2nds, passed

Curator Report: Written plus: Catherine will receive a new computer from CCLI. 1891 FOH will host Barram's presentation on "Dear Uncles" on Aug 16. Mark suggests inviting Fredonia Grange members for a museum tour. Linda moves to accept, Mark 2nds, passed

Town Representative: Chris says that the Town is pleased with our reports, etc. & that our budget line has held. DRB made our interest in obtaining the town building should the town move.

Village Representative: absent

Old Business: Case Statement draft (needed for future grant applications & fund-raising). DRB will subscribe to the Foundation Directory for several months to search for possible grant sources. Dave Tiffany will conduct the searches – Jeff & others will meet with him next week. The recent Weaver gift may be used to produce prints of some of museum's painting to sell (Pat will photograph), & possibly for the purchase of a 3-D printer.

New Business: Health insurance: a meeting was held with Donna Thompson to explore employee insurance policies. A policy will be developed – Jeff will form a draft. We are still searching for another board member (no response from Dan D-S) – we're hoping for a school connection.

Calendar: next meeting Feb 15 at 4pm

Adjournment: Jon moves, Linda 2nds, passed

Minutes submitted by Kathy Petersen, sec'y

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Board of Trustees Meeting

February 15th, 2023

Library Report

Dr. Christina Jarvis Vonnegut Talk – 30 attendees – we hosted Dr. Jarvis of SUNY Fredonia to speak about her latest book, *Lucky Mud & Other Foma*. She had an excellent time, and the talk was well received by the attendees. We are very thankful to her for coming!

Hidden Chautauqua II – Spoke with Thomas Annear after the talk by Dr. Jarvis, and we will be hosting his photography project documenting our local old growth forests, and the role that wetlands and tributaries play in supporting the forests and the surrounding ecosystems. The art will be displayed from October to December of 2023, after their debut at the College Lodge. Very exciting, and an excellent opportunity to help cement our place as a display space for local artists.

Hedgehog Event – 38 people, both children and adults, who had a wonderful time meeting some very cute hedgehogs. We may use them as presenters in the future for Summer reading, depending on the space, as the group maintains a very nice farm and petting zoo

3D Printer quotes – Multiple quotes received, MakerBot seems the most comprehensive and best overall quality.

Ballast Repair – Light was fixed by BECC electric. Our thanks to them for their prompt service!

HVAC maintenance – Gugino's was in to evaluate the HVAC systems for both sides of the building. Both are in good condition and working well!

Kids Take Over the Library – this local favorite program is returning this President's Day, big thanks to Carey and Elizabeth for working it!

Annual Report – Draft to be submitted to CCLS on the 17th.

Usage Stats:

1417 total physical item checkouts, including 566 adult books and 353 juvenile books

Still number three in the system for Overdrive usage, with 995 circulations and 11 new users

Program Stats:

Storytime: 6 sessions, 25 kids and 13 adults in attendance

Lego Master Builders: 4 sessions, 13 kids and 8 adults in attendance

Individual Computer Training: 9 participants

Computer Classes: 2 sessions, 6 participants

Meditations in Paint: 2 sessions, 9 participants

Gail Lynn Book Talk 1/10: 10 attendees

Meet the Artist Deb Blodgett Reception 1/17: 10 attendees

Dr. Christina Jarvis Book Talk 1/28: 30 attendees

Book Club 1/28: 6 participants

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Curator's Report

Archives

- New computer and dual monitor set-up received from the library system. Mike Jones, IT manager for the library system, also was instrumental in getting Omeka S set up for hosting the Grape Belt Archive online. There is nothing uploaded yet, but for those interested the link is <https://barkerarchive.cclsny.org/>. Big thanks to Graham and the people at the library system for all their help!
- Catherine is processing the Grape Belt files, documenting and describing each file as well as determining the ones appropriate for uploading to the Omeka site. She is also continuing work on the Financial section of the village papers.
- Village Papers are 90% complete. Erin comes in twice a month to continue her work. She is wrapping up the last two series and adding tissue paper between all files to help with preservation.

Programs

- Dr. Thomas Reigstad gave a presentation about his book, *Scribblin' for a Livin': Mark Twain's Pivotal Period in Buffalo*, on February 4. 35 people were in attendance.

Outreach

- Coordination with Opera House on history series continues with two confirmed dates; Rick Barram, author of *Dear Uncles: The Civil War Letters of Arthur McKinstry* (and *The 72nd New York Infantry in the Civil War*), will give a talk on August 17, and Dr. Cathy Ullman will present her research into funerary practices on September 7, at 7:00 at the Opera House—much of her research was conducted at the Barker Museum.

- Barker Museum was on the front page of the Observer on February 8th. Two new prospective volunteers have written to show interest after the article was published.
- Number of research requests in the last month: 8. These include property histories and genealogy requests, as well as information about primary sources about the gas well, Forest Hill, and the Fredonia Academy.