

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Board Meeting Agenda

January 18, 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:

New Business: health insurance update, empty board position

Calendar:

Adjourn:

Darwin R. Barker Library & Museum Association

Dec. 21, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Mark Twichell, Max Walters, Pat Stokes, Graham Tedesco-Blair, Jeff Adams, Linda Prechtel, Jon Weekly, Kathy Petersen

Absent: David Dengler

Town Representative: absent

Village Representative: Michelle Twichell

Executive Session: minutes attached

Review of minutes : Jon moves to accept, Linda 2nds, passed

Correspondence: none

Treasurer Report: Jeff reads Kitty's report: She met with Amy at BLB & requested simpler reports. (she sent mock version of new format). She'd like to meet with Graham, Max, & Amy to clarify donation reports for specific projects to separate from operating budget. Jeff requests that Amy provides finance reports 1 week before board meetings. Jeff moves to accept Treasurer Report, Kathy 2nds, passed

Librarian Report: Graham reviews written report, Mark moves to accept, Jon 2nds, passed

Curator Report: Max reviews written report, Kathy moves to accept, Mark 2nds, passed

Town Representative: absent

Village Representative: grant approved, Michelle will get details

Old Business: re proposed 2023 budget: cash on hand lines will be shown at the bottom. Kathy moves to accept, Mark 2nds, 2023 budget passed

Pat will contact Dan Darrell-Sterbak about empty board position. Mark sent out professional appeal letters. Donation received kind donation from Pat Weaver. Jeff would like a HVAC assessment for entire building. Case Statement still in progress for future large donors & grant applications.

New Business: it is necessary to develop an employee health insurance policy for the future. Donna Thompson will assist the board in this.

Fredonia Opera House History Series – possible DRB presentations?
Graham will send thank-you letter to Pat Weaver for donation.

Calendar: next meeting Jan. 18, 2023 4pm

Adjournment: Mark moves, Jon 2nds, passed

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Petersen, sec'y

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Librarian's Report

Case Statement and annual report: Draft is prepared, see attached

Local Artist: Deb Blodgett showcased her amazing artwork this month!
Many thanks to her for letting us display her work!

Light Ballast: light over computer 1 has been fixed. Thanks to BECC Electric for their prompt service!

Author Talks: Local author Gail Lynn spoke about her new book *The Heroine's Journey* on the 10th. SUNY Fredonia professor Christina Jarvis will present about her book *Lucky Mud & Other Foma* about Kurt Vonnegut on January 28th

Stats:

Children:

Storytime: 5 sessions, 16 kids, 10 adults

Lego Master Builders: 3 Sessions, 10 kids, 6 adults

Miracle on Main St Storytime with Santa: 37 kids, 37 Adults

Friends of the Barker Library Giftbag Giveaway: 152

Participants

Adult:

Bottle Craft: 2 participants

Meditations in Paint: 2 Participants

Jingle Bell Barker Open House: 20 attendees

Computer Programs

Individual Tutoring: 7 Participants

Computer Classes: 2 sessions, 3 participants

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Curator's Report

Archives

- A collection database software called Omeka has been selected to house the digital Grape Belt Archive. It is a free (aside from the need for a server at the cost of \$100 per year) and open-source collection management software, managed by non-profit Corporation for Digital Scholarship. Next steps involve finalizing the purchase of a server on a new computer. Once it is set up, the Grape Belt, which is a digital archive, will be uploaded, and then metadata will be manually input. When completed, the archive will be publicly accessible through the Barker's web portal.
 - The Grape Belt Archive is composed of postcards, rare images, ephemera, agricultural catalogs, pamphlets, and photocopies of reference materials including biographies, academic journals, booklets, newspapers, correspondences, and research notes. The collection of materials relate to industries in Pomfret and throughout the southern shore of Lake Erie.
- Omeka was selected above several other collection software systems due to its low cost, its compatibility with established library cataloging standards, and its ability to create digital exhibits. The archive will be free in its entirety.

Programs

- Corresponding with management of the Opera House to explore the possibility of programs around their county history series. Tentatively planning the August author's talk, to be given by Rick Barram (author

of *Dear Uncles: The Civil War Letters of Arthur McKinstry and The 72nd New York Infantry in the Civil War*).

- Dr. Thomas Reigstad is all set to give a presentation about his book, *Scribblin' for a Livin': Mark Twain's Pivotal Period in Buffalo*, on February 4 at noon. Reception will follow his talk.

Outreach

- Four clubs (Shakespeare, Rotary, Antique, and Genealogy) have been invited to the Barker to host a meeting and receive a group tour of the new exhibit. Letter also invited them to the upcoming author presentation.
- Met with a reporter from the Observer and interviewed for an upcoming piece in the newspaper about the Mark Twain exhibit and upcoming programs.
- Barker Museum was on the front page of the Observer's year-end paper.

Acquisitions

- Bob Booth will donate materials from his work restoring the Mark Fountains in Barker Common in 1991 and 1999. The donation is composed of news articles, contracts, spare casting pieces including molds, and original zinc pieces from the Mark Fountains.
- Donation of over 50 artifacts including advertisements, postcards, photos, and correspondences from local businesses and people between 1870s-1940s, from collector Vince Martonis.