

Dutton S. Peterson Memorial Library

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025

President John Parker called meeting to order at 6:07 PM in person at the Dutton S. Peterson Library (Session was recorded for the purposes of generating accurate minutes.)

Roll Call: Present: John Parker, Karin Thomas, Deborah Yeager, Deb Albro, Gail Sgrecci, Kevin Greuber, Jenn and Jeff Stevenson

Absent: Sandi Boles and Mike Scullin

Public to be heard: No public to be heard.

ITEM 1		
Motion to approve last month's minutes with corrections: Scullin with two (2) "II's. Deb Yeager went to the Town meeting, not Deb Albro.		
MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED	APPROVED
Jenn	Deb A.	Unanimously

President's Report:

Town does not have to put the property (hopeful library purchase) up for bid as it is considered surplus property. Purchase offer in but Jerry concerned might need to raise purchase price to cover cost of clearing lot, etc. John hasn't heard anything back. John asked Jerry to name a price satisfactory to the Village. We could use construction aid money towards purchase if necessary. Back to square one.

Financial Reports:

Corrections:

- Stacey's hours.
- STLS cost share. 4% increase

Any concerns over the new numbers? No.

ITEM 2		
Motion to accept amended budget.		
MOTION MADE BY	SECONDED	APPROVED
Gail	Kevin	Unanimously

LIBRARY AIDE: Children's Report February 2025 – Stacey Hetzel:

Programs:

2/8 We hosted a clothes pin refrigerator magnet event. We mod-podged wide clothes pins and put magnetic strips on the back.

2/18 We made wizard wands for the teen program. No teens attended but we had five adults that came.

Storytime

- Steady with two families regularly attending and another family that attends a couple times per month.
- Saturday storytime has had no attendees so far.

We are talking about changing schedule and instead of having teen programming or family programming during the week, have it on a Saturday and maybe get more families or grade-school kids to participate. We would like to have something to offer on a Saturday.

2/5 Karin and I were given the opportunity to go to Albany and represent our library for Library Advocacy Day. This was my first time attending and I thoroughly enjoyed the day. It was nice to meet our State representatives and have them listen to why advocacy for our libraries is so crucial. I also found it very educational to speak with the staff members of our partner libraries.

Director's Report: Circulation numbers included on Agenda (attached)

Continuing education day coming up in May. On a Friday. Karin will look to cover it with staff VS closing for the day as other libraries do. (10-6:00 Friday hours)

Numbers are good. Improving with the weather. Program attendance also improving. Large turnout for the history talks. DPL is partnering with the other

libraries as well as with the historical society and are doing the history talks once a month. The Silverspoon Café (in Human Resource Complex) held the first one. There were 85-90 people that showed up. Topic was “Crimes on the Chemung Canal”.

Four things Karin worked on this week:

- Applying for a digitization grant to digitize all of the scrapbooks and photos. STLS sent someone over and they went through all of them, counted pages and they gave Karin an estimate – approximately \$2,500. No money coming out of our pocket. STLS will do it all with no cost to us. They will show Karin how to upload all photos. Grant was due and handed in this week. Karin would like us to think about what to do with the physical books afterwards. Where to store them? Do we keep them?
- Annual News Letter is due soon. This is where Karin’s focus will be until completed.
- Quick arts Grant for Perry Ground, a Native American Storyteller. He is scheduled for October 17th. He will tell campfire tales. The plan is to ask Havannah Glen’s permission to do a program there even though they close the week before. We ideally want to find some place we can have a campfire. He will tell spooky stories. Karin submitted that Grant today.
- Last grant was for the Foundation of Southern Tier Librarys’ Pride Programs. Goal is to hold pride programs once a month after-hours at the library. They will alternate between this library and Montour Falls library so that teens with transportation issues will be able to attend.

Karin would like to get our opinion on joining the Chamber of Commerce. Karen spoke to Nico Piacentini (Membership Relations Manager). He brought a folder with information.

- \$100/year
- They promote our programs. Get promotions past the reach of the DSP facebook page. Some programs need to be trafficked more than others. A prime example would be the Memory Café that we’re hosting next Saturday – only one person has signed up for so far. Karin just paid \$50 for “facebook boost” to help advertise.

- Networking – getting to know other businesses in the community is essential for us, especially going forward where we'll be trying to hold fundraisers and grow the library. It would be great to have the community's support.

All agreed. Karin can move money around to cover that cost. We don't need to vote on it.

Maintenance Committee:

- Karin put in a request for a flag holder/post for the Pride flag out front. It appears someone bent it. Deb Y. said she would look into it. Karin has a new flag that needs to be hung. It would be nice to have it installed before the pride program on Saturday. (Two days away). Deb Y. said she has a drill and is off work tomorrow (Friday) so will try to make that happen. Deb to let John know if she or Mike cannot do it, or if needs help.

Next Board meeting we will want to discuss Karin's performance reviews. Salary improvement program. (SIP). As Stacey has passed her notary exam, no need for Karin to also study for that.

Deb A. moved we adjourn meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM. Next meeting: 6:00 on April 24th at DSPML.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Sgrecci, DSPML Board Secretary