

## Town of Chester Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

February 20, 2018

**Roll Call:** The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Regina Chabarek, Jane O'Connell, Lynn Thomas, Judy Patterson, Linda Taverni (Friends of the Library), and Alma Alvarez. Excused: Mary Matrose, Al Muench

**Approval of Minutes:** The January 16, 2018 minutes were approved. (M:Judy, S:Jane, Passed)

**Treasurer's Report:** No updates at this time.

**Director's Report:** Alma passed around copies of the Town of Chester Public Library Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy, and the Code of Ethics Policy. Each member is asked to sign and return the attached sheet, certifying that he/she has read and agreed to the policies.

Save the Date: The SALS Annual Trustee Meeting will be held on Monday, May 21, 2018 from 5 - 9 p.m. It will be held at the Excelsior Springs Marriott in Saratoga Springs. All members are encouraged to attend.

Alma handed out a report on Endowment Fundraising for 2017 which, between the ADK Seasons presentation and the Year End Mailing, netted a total of \$8,000. She also shared a single sheet summary of the 2017 Annual Report as well as a brochure with highlights from the report. The Annual Report was accepted by the Board. (M:Judy, S:Jane, Passed)

**Friends of the Library Report:** Coming up immediately: Lecture on Beavers tomorrow night, and Book Sale this weekend.

The friends are setting up a website of their own: [Chesterfriends.org](http://Chesterfriends.org)

Linda reviewed the contributions of the Friends over the years, and reported that in 2017 the Friends contributed \$12,170. Since 2012 they have contributed \$64,946!

The Friends' fundraiser will be on May 20, 1 - 3 p.m. It will be a wine tasting and silent auction, and will include a basket raffle.

**Endowment Fundraising Committee report:** Lynn reported that the committee is currently planning to hold the fundraising event on Thursday, July 19th from 5 -7:00 p.m. Cost will be \$40 per couple and \$25 for single. It will be held at the home of Susan Farr, known as Hermanus. It is located on the Hudson River. A few of us will travel to see the site late in April. We are currently thinking of using the Adirondack Traveling Bar, which will offer beer, wine and a specialty Adirondack drink. For appetizers we will contact the Inn on Gore Mountain. Lynn will also be contacting Al Tolomeo for suggestions for live music.

**Cooper's Cave idea:** Lynn also reported that Cooper's Cave is offering a fundraising opportunity to organizations. The organization signs up for a certain date with the restaurant. When any customer mentions the organization to their wait staff on that date the restaurant will return 15% of the customer's check total to the organization. The board gave Lynn the go-ahead to explore this idea further.

**Understanding Our Endowment Fund Policy:** Regina's topic of the month regarding the policy focuses on a greater public acknowledgement and appreciation of donors. For instance, she would like to develop wording which expresses the Board of Trustee's appreciation to donors as well as the photographer and musicians who contributed to our recent fundraising efforts. Perhaps their names could be listed publicly using the monitor in the library, the web

page (when ready) and the Facebook page. Others who are available and interested are invited to work with Regina on this.

**MVLS and SALS Joint Automation Council:** The Board agreed to continue to use and abide by the rules of the MVLS and SALS Joint Automation Council. (M:Regina, S:Judy, Passed)

**Letter of Resignation:** Regina read a letter of resignation from Ron Lauzon. Appreciation was expressed for all that Ron has contributed as a member of the Board of Trustees. A get well card will be sent to Ron on behalf of the Board.

**Take Action:** The American Library Association reports that the Trump administration's budget for FY2019 eliminates federal funding to libraries. The ALA encourage everyone to contact their members of Congress to oppose these cuts. Go to the ALA website, and click on their Legislative Action Center and proceed from there.

**New Trustees needed:** We'd like to add a couple of additional trustees to the board. Forward any ideas for prospective trustees to Regina and she will make contact. Male nominees are especially welcome in order to balance out our currently very female board.

**March Meeting change: Our March meeting date and time have been changed to Wednesday, March 21, at 10:00 a.m.** (M:Judy, S:Jane, Passed)

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. (M:Jane, S:Judy, Passed)

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Lynn Thomas*