

**Rutherford Public Library Board of Trustees  
Minutes for May 20, 2019 Meeting**

**Open Meeting**

**1. Roll Call**

Trustees Present	Ms. Wendy Armacost Ms. Brenda Fargo Ms. Julie Kajouras Ms. Pat Wester Mr. Palmer Yale
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Absent	Mr. Anthony Nicodemo Ms. Monica Rodriguez Mr. James Rizzo Ms. Krista Vellis
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Staff Present	Mr. Judah Hamer, Director
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Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Ms. Kajouras
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**2. Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act**

Ms. Wester read the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

**3. President's Report**

**A. Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve the agenda with amendments  
**Moved:** Wendy                      **Seconded:** Pat  
**For:** Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Wester, Yale  
**Against:**  
**Abstain:**

## **B. Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 open meeting.

Moved: Yale    Seconded: Armacost

For: Armacost, Kajouras, Wester, Yale

Against:

Abstain: Fargo

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 closed meeting.

Moved: Armacost    Seconded: Wester

For: Armacost, Kajouras, Wester, Yale

Against:

Abstain: Fargo

## **4. Hearing of the citizens**

Ms. Kajouras opened the hearing of the citizens. As no citizens were present to speak, the hearing was closed.

## **5. Correspondence**

None

## **6. Director's Report**

Mr. Hamer reported on Summer Reading and highlighted that this is an incredibly busy time for Jane Tarantino, since the program is being ramped up for implementation while regular school-year programs are running simultaneously. He noted the many class visits, and he praised Ms. Tarantino's work.

There was a meeting with the state Librarian that Mr. Hamer attended by invitation. There seems to be some progress on the Library Construction Bond Act, and stakeholders expect the draft regulations to be released over the summer, with October or November 2019 as the opening of the application period.

The Friends of the Library received a check from the PBA for \$4,730, proceeds from the PBA's from their 2018 5K run. The Friends book sale in May raised \$2,400. The book sale is a considerable amount of effort for the staff as well as the Friends. Ms. Kajouras asked if anyone on the Board could help them out for their Labor Day book sale as it is a long day, suggesting people take shifts.

The Foundation held their Gala on May 11, 2019. Mr. Hamer said many thanks are due to BCB Bank for again serving as event sponsor. He also highlighted the major role of James Rizzo in identifying honorees and continuing to raise the profile of the event.

Mr. Hamer participated in a BCCLS Trustee Education workshop by serving as a panelist; the event focused on library advocacy at the municipal level.

Mr. Hamer reported that the new BCCLS delivery system is being launched by the end of June and that, once in place, he and the team will handle public messaging about changes in the service that will impact them.

Mr. Hamer reported that BCCLS is facilitating discussions among Directors about establishing consistent fines and loan periods across member libraries. He explained that this necessarily involves consensus-building since loan periods and fines are the purview of each library's Boards of Trustees. The advantage of system-wide consistency is that it will improve the patron experience.

Mr. Hamer closed his report after telling the Board that Healing Hearts would be hanging a chain of hearts made at the Multicultural Festival, as part of their efforts to raise awareness about domestic violence.

## 7. Finance

**Motion:** To approve payment of bills enclosed in packet with additions.

Moved: Wester                      Seconded: Fargo

For: Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Wester, Yale

Against:

Abstain:

## 8. Other reports:

Mayor (or Alternate) – No report.

Foundation – It was noted that they are working to identify a date for the 2020 Gala.

Legal – Mr. Hamer sought Board approval to collaborate with Mr. McCarthy on development of a Memorandum of Understanding to serve as a site for emergency evacuation of the Kindergarten Center.

## 9. New Business

- Memorandum of Understanding for the Kindergarten Center

**Motion:** To authorize the Director to develop a Memorandum of Understanding whereby Rutherford Public Library serves as an evacuation site for the Rutherford Public Schools' Kindergarten Center at Sylvan School.

Moved: Armacost                                              Seconded: Yale

For: Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Wester, Yale

Against:

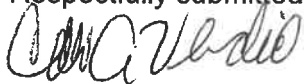
Abstain:

## 10. Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.  
**Moved:** Wester            **Seconded:** Armacost  
**For:** Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Wester, Yale  
**Against:**  
**Abstain:**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cori Verdino