

**Rutherford Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes for August 12, 2019 Meeting**

Open Meeting

1. Roll Call

Trustees Present

Ms. Wendy Armacost
Ms. Brenda Fargo
Ms. Julie Kajouras
Mr. Anthony Nicodemo
Mr. James Rizzo
Ms. Pat Wester
Mr. Palmer Yale

Absent

Ms. Monica Rodriguez
Ms. Krista Vellis

Staff Present

Mr. Judah Hamer, Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Ms. Kajouras

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: Fargo **Seconded:** Wester
For: Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Nicodemo, Rizzo, Wester, Yale
Against:
Abstain:

B. Approval of the Minutes

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

Moved: Armacost Seconded: Wester

For: Armacost, Kajoura, Wester, Yale

Against:

Abstain: Fargo, Nicodemo, Rizzo

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 the status of the HVAC system, focusing on the challenge of cooling in the glass room, the circulation office, and the mezzanine level. He indicated there may be a need to bring in a second professional with additional expertise to help resolve this matter.

Mr. Hamer reported on the leaking of the hot water heater, which as a result was replaced. This heater, located on the mezzanine level, services the staff bathrooms and the Bulldog Academy bathrooms along with several sinks in the building. He noted the new bathrooms are serviced by a smaller secondary water heater located next to them.

Mr. Hamer reported that he is collaborating with Bridget Merli on weeding sections of the adult collections. He also discussed a project in which he, Ms. Merli and Nancy Martin are implementing a classification system that will support analytic reports on the performance of the adult fiction collection. This will inform selection decisions.

Mr. Hamer shared that the new shelving workflow is being tested out this month. Library Associate Mamata Prabhu will take on additional hours weekly as part of the restructuring of this work.

Mr. Hamer related that the Library Foundation met to focus on (a) building consensus around baseline financial support expected of Board members, and (b) the building out of their Board. They have invited Pat Dunne, Chuck Olivo, Tom Tulp, Michael Rizzo, Krista Vellis and Pat Wester onto the Board. Additionally, Mr. Hamer and Mr. Rizzo said that in 2020 the Gala will be honoring the legacy of Barbara Bennett.

Mr. Hamer commented that in July the Library received several donations from groups who usually donate annually:

\$550 – Lions Club for Large Print materials

\$200 – Womans Club for books in memory of Victoria MacFayden and Marie Thomas

\$350 – Jr. Womans Club, as a general donation

Mr. Hamer reminded the Board that the Friends of the Library is hosting a Rosemary Loar concert *Everything's Coming up Rosemary* on Thursday September 19 at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$25. He asked Board members each to purchase 1-2 tickets to the event as a show of support for the Friends.

7. Finance

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

Moved: Armacost Seconded: Wester

For: Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Nicodemo, Rizzo, Wester, Yale

Against:

Abstain:

8. Other reports:

Mayor (or Alternate) – Mr. Nicodemo suggested Lou Redmond be considered to run a program about Mindfulness. He related that Mr. Redmont had led sessions at Pierrepont School with their Student Assistance Counselor, Ms. Huzzy. Mr. Nicodemo described how this program was well-received.

Foundation – No report

Legal – No report

9. Old Business

None

10. New Business

Union Negotiations. Mr. Hamer noted that he had just received an information request from the Union, a preliminary to launching negotiations. He said he would add a closed session to the September Board meeting Agenda for the purpose of discussing negotiations.

Dinner Meeting. Ms. Kajouras said that she would reach out prior to the next Board of Trustees meeting about following the meeting with a dinner. In connection with this, the next meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

11. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Armacost **Seconded:** Wester

For: Armacost, Fargo, Kajouras, Nicodemo, Rizzo, Wester, Yale

Against:

Abstain:

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cori Verdino".

Cori Verdino