

March 15, 2024 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE EAST HAMPTON LIBRARY HELD AT 4:00 PM

Sheila Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Present: Arandia, Carey, Collins, Corwin , Deichert, Druke , French (Business Operations and Human Resource Officer), Goren, Pool, Rogers, Ross (zoom), Schaeffer (zoom), Shaw, Sollazzo (YA Department Head), Soriano, Thomas, Walter and Willet.

Absent: Akkad, Fabiszak (Executive Director), Ferrin, Lipper, Molinari and Parker.

A motion to approve the minutes for the November, December and January meetings was made by Brooke Goren and seconded by Diana Diechert—passed.

Chairperson’s Report: With sadness, Sheila Rogers acknowledged the deaths of two former Board Members, Ann Chapman and Jenny Mulligan. Ann was on the Board for close to 40 years and Jenny served for over five years. The Library benefited greatly from their dedication.

Sheila reported that the Authors Night committee has been working hard to secure authors for this year’s event and has discovered that many authors now are requesting travel and lodging expenses since publishers are no longer covering the costs.

President’s Report: Brooke Goren reported that the Latin American language and literature specialist scholarship opportunity has not been posted. According to Linda Willet, since speaking Spanish is a business necessity and a requirement of the job, legally it can be posted that a Spanish speaking is a requirement. Charlie Soriano added that this scholarship should be advertised at library schools too.

Treasurer’s Report: Jim Pool stated that there was a surplus of approximately \$85,000 at the end of 2023. A motion to approve the draft management report and disbursements for November and December was made by Chip Rae and seconded by Debbie Walter —passed. Jim gave the financial reports for February. Jim will comment on the January minutes at the next meeting. Jim reported that the February reports show a loss for copier expenses as there is no charge for copies any more and there were some extra expenses in computer software, miscellaneous expenses, professional fees and the physical plant. The used book sales revenue is up. Also, investment revenue is up largely due to the donation received for the YA room expansion. A motion to approve the draft management report and disbursements for February was made by Charlie Soriano and seconded by Liz Carey —passed.

A la fecha de 1/31/2024

Total Operating Revenue	\$1,635,338
Total Operating Expenses	\$283,062
Operating Surplus	\$1,352,276
Net Transfers	
	\$597,000
Net Surplus	\$1,949,276
Operating Disbursements	\$468,093.15
Other Disbursements	\$289,010.94
Total Disbursements	\$757,104.09

A la fecha de 2/29/2024

Total Operating Revenue	\$2,489,470
Total Operating Expenses	\$743,861
Operating Surplus	\$1,745,609
Net Transfers	\$597,000
Net Surplus	\$2,342,609

Operating Disbursements	\$456,839.74
Other Disbursements	\$12,904.34
Total Disbursements	469,744.08

Book Sales: Debbie reported that many books were

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Rikers Island social worker. The books, especially cookbooks, are much appreciated by the inmates. A donation of 80 books was recently received. The signed books from the donation are being sold on ebay by Steve Spataro. Debbie also shared a valentine book, filled with anonymous valentines sent yearly for over 35 years.

Director’s Report: Via a pre-recorded video, Dennis Fabiszak addressed the Board on the following topics:

- a. Personnel Report. Eross Elizondo was hired to be a scanning clerk in the Long Island Collection. The part time custodian, Pablo Gallego’s work authorization expired. Because he could no longer legally work at the Library, he was terminated. Dennis reported that at an additional cost of \$7.00, he will add a work authorization status inquiry to the required background checks for new employees. A motion was made by Brooke Goren and seconded by Diana Deichert to accept the appointment of Eross Elizondo and the termination of Pablo Gallego—passed.
- b. NYC State Annual Report for Libraries. The NYC State Annual Report was due on March 1, 2024. It is a cumbersome and lengthy report. Dennis shared information about patron’s use of print and electronic library items. A motion to retroactively approve the annual report was made by José Arandia and seconded by Jim Pool—passed.
- c. YA Room Expansion Project. Dennis shared images to show the progress of the construction for the YA expansion. Over 6,000 books were removed from the shelves to make room for the YA room expansion. The computer station was moved and a space has been designated to house the podcast/recording booth. During construction, the sprinkler pipes will be moved and the ceiling height will be raised. The goal is to have the work finished by June 15, 2024.

Jill Sollazzo, Department Head of the YA Room, shared the new programs and initiatives that have been started or will start for the Young Adults. She reported that the teens are very excited about the podcast/recording room. It is hoped to have a collaborative podcast program with East Hampton High School. Some programs requested by teens include: additional crafting programs, adulting 101 (how to balance a checkbook, etc) and scholarship writing assistance. An English as a New Language (ENL) coach is working to set up a program for ENL students applying for college. In collaboration with the High School, on a rolling basis, the Library would like to offer extended college process help (ACT & SAT prep and college essay writing instruction). A new group of teen boys are meeting at the Library to play Dungeons and Dragons. Jill would like to encourage them to commit to come to the library every week and perhaps create more role playing games/activities. Young Adults are provided many opportunities for community service including beach clean ups in collaboration with Georgica Pond and the Surfrider club, Earth Day clean up in the Village and the Hamptons Whodunit.

A motion to adjourn at 4:56 pm was made by Chip Rae and seconded by José Arandia —passed.

The next meeting is April 19, 2024 at 4:00 pm

Submitted by Ellen Collins

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