

Regular Meeting
Nioga Board of Trustees
September 26, 2023
Nioga Headquarters
Proposed

The regular meeting of the Nioga Library System Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

Present: Charles Begley, Jeffrey Laub, Kristie Miller, Craig Bacon, Howard Balaban, Marilyn Zaciewski, Dan Haight, Patty Nagel and Jeanne Tuohey

Excused: Andrea Fetterly

Staff members present: Thomas Bindeman, Lisa Erickson and Laura Jeffery

OPEN HEARING

There was no business brought forth in the Open Hearing.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Begley called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Haight led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Action: Mr. Haight made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 22, 2023 meeting as presented. Mr. Balaban seconded and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Audit Committee:

The Monthly Budget Reports for August 2023 was included in the Board Packet. Also included was the Monthly Payroll Report.

Schedule of Payments

August 2023

General Fund 2023-08 \$143,410.06

LAA Account 2023-08 \$ 2,480.09

Mr. Haight stated the accounts are in order.

Audit update:

Lumsden & McCormick, LLP is still working on the audit.

Buildings and Grounds:

State Construction Grant application report was handed out at the meeting.

Nioga Library System State Construction 2023/2024 Cycle					
LIBRARY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	PROJ AMT	REQUEST	REC AWARD	MATCH %
Lee Whedon - MED	Phase 1 of 3 for new addition	2,686,166	2,014,625	630,358	24/76
Lewiston Library - LEW	Roof work	25,300	18,975	18,975	75/25
Lockport Library - LOC	Replacement of 23 windows	124,000	93,000	93,000	75/25
Niagara Falls - NFL	Replace circulation, public meeting room, and staff lounge counters	121,772	109,595	109,595	90/10
LaSalle Library - LAS	Refurbish Circulation desk	33,858	30,472	30,472	90/10
Royalton Hartland - MDT	Lighting; new back steps; back door window and frame; new gutters	8,765	6,574	6,575	75/25
Ransomville Library - RAN	New sidewalk; new windows	21,985	16,489	16,489	75/25
	ALLOTMENT \$905,464	3,021,846	2,289,730	905,464	

Action: Mr. Haight made a motion to accept the Member Libraries' State Construction Grant Applications as presented by the Building & Grounds Committee. Ms. Nagel seconded and the motion carried.

Personnel Committee:

Update on the Executive Director Evaluation will move to the end of the meeting.

Program Committee:

Ms. Zaciewski stated the 2024 Annual Dinner takes place in Niagara County. She is looking into the Wurlitzer Event Center on Niagara Falls Boulevard, there will be more information to come.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Accept Grigg Lewis Funds:

Action: Ms. Tuohey made a motion to accept the Grigg Lewis Funds as presented. Ms. Miller seconded and the motion carried.

Upcoming Trustee Training Oct. 18th and Oct. 25th 6-8 pm:

Mr. Begley stated there will be two Trustee Trainings, Oct 18th and 25th. Both sessions are the same and each session is 2 hours long. The Law Office of Stephanie Cole Adams, PLLC will conduct the workshop via Zoom. The title of the Training sessions is, Legal Documents and Relationships of Library Trustee.

Barker Update:

Mr. Begley gave the floor to Ms. Nagel to update the Board on Barkers' Board meeting. Ms. Nagel reported the last meeting was held outside at the Gazebo. Not as many guests were in attendance as the meeting prior. The Board members and Director had a 3 minute time limit for any guest who wished to speak at the meeting. Ms. Nagel stated everything ran smooth.

Patron stats/Items Owned:

A monthly report was included in the Board packet.

Confidentiality of Patron Records:

Thomas Bindeman stated, Patron records are confidential by NY State Law.

A "Nioga Library System Confidentiality of Library System Records Policy" proposal was included in the Board Packet.

Action: Mr. Bacon made a motion to accept the Nioga Library System Confidentiality of Library System Records Policy as presented. Mr. Balaban seconded and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Update on State Funding:

Thomas Bindeman stated a State deficient could happen. He stated we have tried several things to rally more funding for the libraries such as petitions/signatures, kids helping Legislators.

2023 Book Challenges:

The Book Challenge report by the American Library Association was included in the Board packet. The article is titled "American Library Association Releases Preliminary Data on 2023 Books Challenges"

First Amendment Protections & Library Values:

A report from Thomas Bindeman and The Law Office of Ms. Stephanie Adams, PLLC, was included in the Board packet.

American Library Association (ALA) Statement:

1. Its national advocacy and policy work that has changed the course of public support for libraries for the better for more than 100 years.
2. Its professional development that has enhanced library services in the profession, and
3. The provision of the platform for the debate of important ideas that have led to standards that calls upon libraries to uphold the basic rights of a functioning democracy, including the defense of First Amendment rights.

Nioga Library System Board of Trustees reaffirms our membership in the American Library Association. A report was included in the Board Packet.

Action: Ms. Miller made a motion to endorse the ALA statement, as presented in the handout. Ms. Nagel seconded and the motion carried.

Adoption of the Collection Development Policy:

A Collection policy report was included in the August 22, 2023 Board packet for review, and the Collection policy report was also included in this Board Packet.

Action: Ms. Nagel made a motion to accept the Collection Development Policy as presented. Ms. Tuohey seconded and the motion carried

Communication, Advocacy and Outreach Report

Niagara County Funding

Lisa Erickson stated she has submitted the Niagara County grant application for next year, 2024. The amount of the grant is \$283,134.00 distributed to the Niagara County libraries.

Genesee County Funding:

Lisa Erickson stated the Genesee County grant amount is \$41680.00 with an additional \$2,000.00 to each Genesee library.

Workshops/Training:

- **Legal Documents and Relationships for Library Trustees Workshop:** Will be held **October 18, 2023** 6:00 – 8:00PM PM
- **Legal Documents and Relationships for Library Trustees Workshop:** Will be held **October 25, 2023** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

State Construction Update:

Lisa Erickson distributed State construction charts at the meeting.

Youth Services:

A monthly report from Laura Herold was included in the Board Packet.

Extension Services Update:

A monthly report from Sara Taylor was included in the Board Packet.

OLD BUSINESS:

None presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Miller stated, Byron-Bergen Public Library is moving to a Municipal 414 vote. Mr. Balaban stated, Lee Whedon Memorial Library, Medina is having a book signing on October 14, 2023. The author is Roland Howell.

OTHER:

October meeting is canceled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Action: It was moved by Mr. Haight to go into Executive Session to discuss the Executive Director's evaluation. Ms. Tuohey seconded and the motion carried.

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:37 PM

END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Action: It was moved by Mr. Bacon to end the Executive Session at 6:43 PM. Mr. Balaban seconded and the motion was carried.

Action: It was moved by Ms. Miller to accept the Executive Directors Evaluation. Mr. Bacon seconded and the motion carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING:

Next Nioga Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 28, 2023

ADJOURNMENT:

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Secretary