

**Regular Meeting
Nioga Board of Trustees
April 15, 2025
Nioga Headquarters**

The regular meeting of the Nioga Library System Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Present: Charles Begley, Jeffrey Laub, Andrea Fetterly, Craig Bacon, Kristie Miller, Marilyn Zaciewski, Dan Haight, Howard Balaban, Tammam Kinan and Patty Nagel

Excused: Jeanne Tuohey

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

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Haight

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Action: It was moved by Ms. Fetterly to accept the minutes from the January 21, 2025 meeting as presented. Mr. Bacon seconded and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Audit Committee:

The Monthly Budget Reports for January, February, March 2025 were included in the Board Packet.

Schedule of Payments

a) January 2025

General Fund 2025-01	\$230,799.85
SRF Account 2025-01	\$ 20,000.00
LAA Account 2025-01	\$ 12,928.27

b) February 2025

General Fund 2025-02	\$ 21,071.59
SRF Account 2025-02	\$ 59,990.00
LAA Account 2025-02	\$113,027.87

c) March 2025

General Fund 2025-03	\$ 31,970.07
SRF Account 2025-03	\$ 8,950.00
LAA Account 2025-03	\$113,021.74

January, February and March 2025 Employee monthly payroll reports were also included in the Board packet.

Mr. Haight reported that the accounts are in good standing.

Action: It was moved by Mr. Balaban to accept the January, February, March financial reports. Mr. Laub seconded and the motion carried.

Nominating Committee:

Mr. Laub gave an update on the two vacancies on the Nioga Board of Trustees: the City of North Tonawanda Seat and the Genesee County Seat. Mr. Laub also stated Mr. Dan Haight will run for his second term for the City of North Tonawanda seat, and Ms. Kristie Miller will run for her second term for the Genesee County seat.

The Chair of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Laub gave an update on the Slate of Officers for 2025.

2025/2026 Slate of Officers:

President – Mr. Begley
Vice-President – Mr. Laub
Treasurer – Mr. Haight
Secretary – Ms. Miller

Action: It was moved by Mr. Bacon to accept the 2025/2026 Slate of Officers. Ms. Nagel seconded and the motion carried.

Program Committee

Annual Dinner:

Ms. Zaciewski updated the Board on plans for the Annual Dinner scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the White Birch Golf Course, 1515 N Lyndonville Rd, Lyndonville, NY. The cost per person will be \$32.00. Invitations were included in the Board Packet. The invitations to the member library boards and Directors have been mailed out. Registration starts at 5:30 PM and basket tickets sales will be open at 5:30 PM. The buffet dinner is at 6:30 PM and the program will follow right after dinner.

The Outstanding Service Award:

Ms. Zaciewski stated that the Program Committee has recommended Betty Sue Miller, Hoag Library as the recipient of the Outstanding Service Award. The nomination narrative was included in the Board packet.

The Annual Outreach Award:

Ms. Zaciewski stated that the Program Committee has recommended Lucine Kauffman, Richmond Memorial Library for the Outreach Award. The nomination narrative was included in the Board packet.

The Norman Sinclair Award:

Ms. Zaciewski stated that the Program Committee has recommended Haxton Memorial Library Board of Trustees for the Norman Sinclair Award. The nomination narrative was included in the Board packet.

Action: Ms. Zaciewski made a motion to accept Betty Sue Miller, Hoag Library to receive The Outstanding Service Award, Lucine Kauffman, Richmond Memorial Library to receive the Annual Outreach Award and the Haxton Library Board of Trustees to receive The Norman Sinclair Award. Ms. Nagel seconded and the motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Trustee Training Sessions:

Mr. Begley stated that one trustee training session has taken place via Zoom and another one is scheduled for tomorrow evening. Certificates will be e-mailed out. Mr. Begley also stated there are two additional sessions scheduled in October 2025.

Update on the Sexual Harassment prevention workshops:

Sexual Harassment Prevention workshops took place on April 2, 2025 and April 9, 2025 via Zoom. Certificates will be e-mailed to participants.

Sexual Harassment Policy:

The Sexual Harassment Policy was included in the Board Packet for review.

Submit 2024 Annual Report:

The Library System operated under its approved Plan of Service in accordance with its provision of Education Law and Regulations of the Commissioner, and assures that the annual report was reviewed and accepted by the Board.

Action: Ms. Miller made a motion to submit Nioga’s Annual Report to the State. Mr. Haight seconded and the motion carried.

Patron Counts/Items Owned:

Reports were included in the Board Packet

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Update on State Budget:

Thomas Bindeman stated that the New York State Budget has not passed

Federal Funding:

Thomas Bindeman stated that an Executive Order has shut down the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The State Library is funded by grants from this organization.

Technical Services Vacancy:

Thomas Bindeman stated Margaret Stein retired April 5, 2025. He will be interviewing candidates for her position in the next couple weeks. Nioga has signed a contract with Siri Dynix to maintain the System until someone is hired.

Richmond Memorial Library Update:

Thomas Bindeman stated Richmond Memorial Library has an opening for a Library Director. The Assistant Director is the interim Director.

Communications, Advocacy & Outreach

LSTA M/WBE Resolution:

Library Services and Technology Act Grant Resolution was included in the packet.

Action: Mr. Haight made a motion to accept the LSTA Grant Resolution. Ms. Miller seconded and the motion carried.

Youth Services Update:

A report on activities in Youth Services was also included in the Board packet. A new clerk, Melanie Hyland has been hired part-time.

Extension Services Update

A report for the month was included in the Board packet.

MEMBER LIBRARY DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES COMMENTS, ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Mr. Bacon complimented Nioga on getting a book from out of district library quickly.

Ms. Miller made the suggestion to member Board members to meet with member libraries board trustees at their board meetings to get to know our libraries.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business brought forward.

OTHER

Annual Dinner: May 21, 2025 - White Birch Golf Course 5:30 PM

Next regular meeting: June 24th 2025 (originally scheduled June 17, 2025)

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM

Secretary