

119th ANNUAL MEETING
of the
Swan Library Association
May 6, 2019

“Pursuant to Article III, Section 4 of its by-laws, this being the first Monday in May, I call the 119th Annual Meeting of the Hoag Library of the Swan Library Association to order. The time is 12 noon, Eastern Daylight Time.

This year there are 3 vacancies for the office of Trustee, one full, 4-year term, and 2 partial terms. There are 3 candidates on the ballot. Nominations from the floor of the Annual Meeting are not accepted. The biographies of the candidates, some of whom are incumbent Trustees, can be found on the Library website at www.hoaglibrary.org.

At the regular February meeting of the Library Trustees, it was determined that this election and Annual Meeting will follow the format originally adopted March 12, 2008 and successfully used at Annual Meetings thereafter.

Election shall be by paper ballots, submitted by qualified members of the Association from this point until 7 PM this evening. At 7 PM, those qualified voters either registered or in a definite position to register will be allowed to cast ballots, but subsequent voters will be turned away. Qualified members of the Association must be 18 years of age and have lived in the service area of the Library for at least 30 days on the day of the Annual Meeting.

The successful candidates will fill the vacancies based on the number of votes received: the individuals receiving the highest vote tallies will win the 4 year terms, the individual with third highest vote tally will win the partial term.

Each potential voter will register and receive a blank ballot. A ballot will be considered valid if it contains marks voting for 1 or 2 or 3 nominees. A voter who has spoiled a ballot in any way can ask for a clean ballot up until the time the ballot is cast.

Are there any questions?

At this this time, I declare this Annual Meeting in recess until a time certain to allow for the casting of ballots. This meeting will reconvene at this same place at 7PM this evening for the purpose of receiving various reports and conducting the necessary business of the Association. There will be a presentation by the Library Director and cookies!

The following members of the Association were in attendance:

Kevin Doherty, Betty Sue Miller, Teresa Gaylard, Gloria Nauden, Thaddeus Nauden, Carol Miller and Maurice Taylor

Pursuant to Article III, Section 4 of the By-Laws, and this being the first Monday in May, Kevin Doherty, Trustee President, called the 119th Annual Meeting of the Swan Library Association to order at 7:01pm

Attendance: Kevin Doherty, Betty Sue Miller, Dan Conrad, Gloria Nauden, Anitrice Bennett, Maurice Taylor, Terry Wilbert, Teresa Gaylard, Elizabeth Haibach and Dave Sidari. Meghan Coyle taking notes.

Motion accept 2018 Annual Minutes made by Dave Sidari and seconded by Gloria Nauden. All in favor. Accepted

Welcoming Remarks: President Kevin Doherty welcomed all in attendance and introduced members of the board that were present. Asked for this to be a conversation- that has seemed to work in the recent past and please raise your hand if you would like to share or discuss with someone. Current treasurer's report is not available in bulk- it is available to print for those who would like it right now. For those who would like time to read it in depth, it can also be emailed to you for eco-friendly convenience.

Directors Report: Given by Betty Sue Miller

Tonight's director's report will be a bit of a narrative- there are many different areas of information with questions and conversation welcome throughout.

Beginning with the solar panels: please see the line graph showing a comparison between the electric bills from 2014, 2017, & 2018. Kevin and Betty Sue showed some of the differences and the savings between prior to solar panels and now. Dave Sadari asked if we sell electricity back to National Grid- Kevin said we do not, because it is not really worth it, financially, to do so at this time.

Betty Sue discussed some of the ways that the staff has changed things around in the library; such as the order/layout of the book stacks, the amount of shelving in the children's library, the placement of cameras, etc. There were no cameras on the outside of the building, so in future plans we will add outside cameras to cover the front, the side, and the back/parking lot.

We have hired more librarians, now there are 4 ½ trained librarians. We cannot, as a library, move forward without the staff trained to be of service to the community and create new programs.

We have also added the concrete pad and granite benches-

New things coming- the sign (Today!), and new little sign behind the circulation desk catches people's eyes. Elizabeth has been putting up library services- it lets people know what services we offer, beyond book and movie check out.

King and King Architects- provided us the reference for the landscape architects. Goforth Electric (also local)

We have gone with the highest level of resolution we were able to purchase to keep the visibility/readability as high as possible.

Upcoming- children's garden. Betty Sue is not a huge fan of the amount of plants added because it makes it secluded. She is happy to send the proposed plans to anyone for feedback- the more the merrier. Dave asked what is actually out there at this time- Betty Sue described some of the reasons she doesn't feel the setup of the space is conducive to setting and reading (or playing) outside and usefully using the space. She would also like to see the gate moved, so that where we have programs in the back parking lot, they have to walk all around the outside the the northwest side. Kevin interjected about how the library has been lucky to qualify for many grants and building project monies because we are often in a position to manage/match. Maurice asked where the children's library came from; why is it there/has what it has. Kevin said the Keeler's have donated money, specifically for a children's garden/outdoor place to sit and read. Betty Sue described the space and what it has been used for in the past, such as children's art projects and reading- looking to just be more useful in the future, but without plants that need to be babied/ really taken care of.

Betty Sue has plans to fill in the remaining drainage ditch and the first ditch (already had the stones removed) to make the area level.

Also this year, Betty Sue is planning to have half of the parking lot (front have) milled down and repaved. This will improve not only the safety of the lot, but also the look of the lot. The back half will be done next year or the year after. Kevin reminded the room that although the building is only 5 years old, some of the parking lot is nearly 20 years old. Maurice asked why the whole parking lot was not done when the building was built- Kevin replied that it was a budget constraint of the time. Now that the building is running and working, Betty Sue described the process she uses for budgeting for these type of larger projects, for example the money that was budgeted last year and not used for the paving is still there and rolling over to cover the paving this year.

Stacy Kirby- local artist and muralist, approached Betty Sue about painting a mural (and applying for a Go-Art grant in 2020) and putting in this meeting room (where the landscape with the greaser's house currently is).

\$1,640,000 was the original mortgage amount- in 2016 the Library Board refinanced the mortgage with Steuben Bank and by paying off extra money directly on the mortgage, they were able to extend but also reduce the principal mortgage amount to 1 million. Betty Sue has a chart showing the differences between what we were paying (and what payments would be) and what we currently still owe (including future payments). This is due to the great generosity of our donors- not only the Hoag's who regularly say "I don't want you to be in debt." Kevin talked about how lucky the library is to have a line of credit to cover any expenses between the fiscal year start (Jan 1st), the Budget vote (May) and the check from the school district (October). As a non-profit that uses tax money, NYS does not want us to have a savings account. So this line of credit we are lucky enough to have, keeps us safe in case there is ever a problem that exceeds the money we are waiting until October to receive from the school.

Betty Sue shared the Fantastic Voyage book, which shares passes to 'local' exhibits and activities.

Kevin brought out the Civil War USCT regimental flag- giving a little history of the flag itself, the conversation the board and others have had about the flag, and what the 'wait and see' plan for the future is. Betty Sue shared some thoughts that people who have recently attended had shared ideas about what this may be, not actually a regimental flag. Maurice asked about other artifacts, not papers, but physical artifacts, that the library has and is not selling. Betty Sue discussed the need to restore and properly display if saving it. It is easier to save the George Washington letter and the Susan B Anthony letter- the provenance is known for both of those and keeping the letters safe is as easy. Maurice did share that, as a minority, the board needs to consider how their decisions look and how people may see them. He sees the board as an organization that really needs to do what the community wants of them, so we should get the community's input.

ELECTIONS

48 Ballots Cast

Maurice Taylor – 31 - 4-year term

Debbie DiBacco - 28 - 3-year term

Linda Weller - 24 -3-year term

NEW BUSINESS: None at this time

8:11 PM Motion to adjourn made by Gloria Nauden and seconded by Dave Sidari. All in favor. Accepted.

Respectfully submitted,