

Little Falls Library LAC
Minutes for Meeting Held March 5, 2024

Irem DeMirkan called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm with roll call.

Present were:

Patrick Fromm, Regional Manager
Carla Vale, Library Board Representative
Irem DeMirkan, Chair
Robert November
Hannah November
Jane Mendelbaum
Gerry Ostrove
Katherine Davies, Secretary

1. Approval of December Minutes. Jane Mandelbaum moved to approve the minutes and Robert November seconded the motion. All voted in favor of approval.

The August Minutes were approved as revised. The spelling of Gerry Ostrove's last name was corrected and Katherine Davies as secretary was added as attending. These minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Regional Manager's Report.

The elevator is being fully replaced and the construction will continue into the spring. The staff is manually moving books.

The sink in one of the bathrooms that has been a problem has been fixed.

A lactation space is being constructed for employees.

Staffing changes:

The children's library lead is leaving. She did a lot of programs and has been great. Another librarian is leaving in May. The children's programs will be reduced until these positions are filled. Little Falls Library is a hard sell because of its location. Staff don't usually live

in this community.

Teen programs are going well.

The rain barrels arrived. Jane Mandelbaum says that they are fabulous.

The summer reading program will kick off on June 23rd with a program at Connie Morella Library.

3. Chair's Report.

The Chair reported that she received a call from another LAC regarding staffing support at downcountry libraries. The Regional Manager said that he could get staffing levels but budget is more elusive.

4. Library Board Report.

Hannah and Robert November have applied for renewal and there has been a new application for the LAC from Kacki Power. It was expected that there would be another application from Shelley Kreigman but it was not received. The Library Board meets Wednesday.

The updated LAC Handbook has been sent to LAC members and will be posted on the website. The LAC can now set its own format, either remote or in person. An electronic survey must be approved by the Library Board. Social media that infers that you are speaking for the LAC is not permitted. A new handbook will be released every February.

Anita Vassallo, Director of Montgomery County Libraries, is retiring July 1, 2024. Comments on what to seek in her replacement have been collected and sent to human resources.

The Library Board wants the LAC members to advocate for full funding for the library system by contacting their council member representatives.

The Library Board is recruiting for applications to serve on the Library Board.

LAC elections are to be held by June 1. The Little Falls LAC meeting was scheduled for June 4. Therefore the Little Falls LAC meeting has been rescheduled for May 28.

5. Old Business.

Jane Mandelbaum reports that 2 rain barrels have been provided. The gardeners have refreshed the pots in front of the library and want to expand their plantings.

Hannah November would like the survey questions to be resent. A comment board will be placed in the library.

6. New Business.

Gerry Ostrove attended a joint Library Board and LAC meeting on October 12, 2023. She was the only person who attended from our LAC. Jane Mandelbaum attended the January 10th joint meeting virtually. Gerry Ostrove will attend the Connie Morella open LAC meeting next week.

Gerry Ostrove moved to adjourn the meeting and Jane Mandelbaum seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7: 35 pm.