

Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Amherst Public Library



Wednesday April 12, 2023 – starting at 5:30pm

Minutes of Meeting held at the:
Main Library at Audubon (Maker Space)
350 John James Audubon Parkway
Amherst, New York 14228

Present: Carolyn Giambra, Cynthia Selden, Jeffrey Voelkl, Penny Wolfgang, Oliver C. Young

Excused Absence: Marilyn Feuerstein, Deborah Bucki

Also Present: Kristi Dougherty (Director), Donna Kerr, Kevin Zawadzki, Joe Voytovich

A). Meeting called to order and attendance @ 5:34 pm

B). Review and Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on March 7, 2023

Motion by Jeffrey Voelkl, seconded by Cynthia Selden. All in favor.

C). Review and Approval of the Agenda for April 12, 2023

Motion by Jeffrey Voelkl, seconded by Cynthia Selden. All in favor.

D). Public comment

A member of the public, Joe Voytovich, voiced his concern about why Audubon Library did not open on the date posted online or on the Town of Amherst website since it is a Town owned building. Ms. Dougherty and Mr. Voelkl directed him to the library website for the agenda and minutes. Ms. Dougherty will confirm that minutes and the agendas will appear on the Town website as well. Mr. Voelkl explained construction delays were the reason for the later opening date.

E). Report of the President

Mr. Voelkl showed the Thank You gift to be presented at the Dedication Ceremony, April 15th to Roseanne Butler-Smith. He reminded the Board members that the ceremony takes place at 6:30 pm with light refreshments.

F). Committee Reports

Town of Amherst Council Member's Report – Deborah Bucki

In her absence, Ms. Dougherty reported for Ms. Bucki. Ms. Bucki shared a Proclamation from the Town of Amherst for the newly renovated Main Library at Audubon.

It was also noted that Ms. Bucki is on the Diversity Committee for the Town of Amherst and they will be studying the John James Audubon controversy. Any comments by patrons or staff will be referred to Amherst Town Supervisor Brian Kulpa.

G). Report of the Library Director

- Main Library at Audubon Expansion Project
 - Update
 - Bollard installation

There are still some projects to be completed. A bollard was installed near the delivery door to protect the electrical panel. The Librarian's office has a roof leak which will be addressed by Peak Construction. The plumber will return to re-caulk the new bathrooms. The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Graphics Department will be installing new signage this week.

The interior designers for the renovation will be taking pictures of the Children's Area and other parts of the Main Library at Audubon. Certificates of Occupancy have arrived for the community rooms and new children's area and are posted.

Debris clean-up and landscaping is the next big step outside.

The Town of Amherst Highway Department removed dead trees and some trees that were removed will be replaced after additional assessment.

Ms. Giambra brought attention that signage at the front of Audubon

needs to be displayed for better viewing.

* Buildings

- Eggertsville-Snyder heating issue
- Williamsville Library Roof Leak
- Audubon Library tree maintenance and picnic tables

Eggertsville Library experienced a carbon monoxide issue. The library was closed at the time. The situation was remedied. Alarms will also now report to the Fire Department via Kepco Alarm Company.

Williamsville Library had another roof leak which has been fixed.

Audubon tree maintenance –see notes above. Picnic tables have been assembled by a caretaker and placed in front of the library. One more will be placed by the end of the week.

- Spring programming
- Town of Amherst Cannon Report
- State Report

Ms. Dougherty has redesigned the Children’s Programs flyer, which feature story times, LEGO drop-in, and more. A new partnership, fostered by Librarian Beth Staebell with Ms. Rachel Tutu School will bring free preschool dance classes to the Audubon Library.

The Cannon Report assesses all Town buildings including all 4 libraries.

It prioritizes the needs of each building, cost projections for repairs needed, etc.

Town staffers reviewed the report with Ms. Dougherty.

The Annual State Report is a work in progress. At the May Board meeting, a resolution will be given to Board members to sign after they review the completed State Report.

H). Finances

- 2023 Budget
- County bills paid #2011-2032

Motion to approve by Jeffrey Voelkl, seconded by Penny Wolfgang.
All in favor.

- Williamsville bills paid # 1256

Motion to approve by Jeffrey Voelkl, seconded by Penny Wolfgang.
All in favor.

- Other bills paid #2833-2848

Motion to approve by Jeffrey Voelkl, seconded by Penny Wolfgang.
All in favor.

- Construction Grant Funds
 - Bills to be paid
No bills at this time.
- Town of Amherst Budget
Board members were given the current list of expenditures paid under the Town 2023 budget of \$40,000.

I). Unfinished Business

- Quorum/Bylaws update -tabled until the May Board meeting.

J). New Business

- Audubon Library Dedication (April 15, 2023)-see notes above.
The Porch Rockers band will perform at the dedication.
- Board member, Penny Wolfgang, reported the Arts in Culture Public Art Committee was seeking the Audubon Library as participants in the Friends of Harmony stroll through Walton Woods on July 23. Staff availability will be assessed as this event takes place during the busy summer program season.

K). Correspondence/Other Items As Needed- nothing at this time.

Next meeting to be held:

May 16, 2023 at 5:30 pm Main Library at Audubon (Maker Space)

L). Adjournment - 6:08 pm

Motion to adjourn by Cynthia Selden, seconded by Oliver C. Young. All in favor.