

## TOWN OF HAMBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

HAMBURG LIBRARY –November 22, 2021

President Michelle Parker called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**PRESENT:** Director Brian Hoth, Michelle Parker, Dr. Holly Schreiber, Cate Lee, Anita Metzger, and Sheree Hillman

**MINUTES:** Anita Metzger moved to accept the Minutes of the last meeting. Sheree Hillman seconded, and the motion was passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Leslie Carr, our new librarian; introduced herself to the board.

George Buscaglia, a patron of the library, came to address the Board with respect to his suspended privileges at the Hamburg Library. He was trying to explain his side of the altercation and felt that Director Hoth suspended his privileges based on what others had said and that he was not asked his side of the story. While explaining to the Board what transpired, George went on a few different tangents unrelated to the incident. President Michelle Parker asked him to keep the conversation specific relative to the incident which occurred at the Hamburg Library on August 7. He started once again and President Michelle Parker interrupted him once more to redirect him. Michelle further explained that he wasn't presenting anything that was relative to the incident and that the Board cannot amend anything regarding the suspension of his library privileges, which is within the purview of the director. George became frustrated and raised his voice slightly at which point President Michelle Parker asked him to leave. He did not present anything that was relative to library business that the Board could address. Sheree Hillman apologized to him for the situation.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Director Brian Hoth presented his written report to the Trustees about several programs that went on throughout the month at both the Hamburg and Lake Shore libraries. Weekly and monthly take & makes for children and teens continue to be very popular at both libraries.

### **Hamburg**

#### **Christmas Wreaths**

Director Hoth purchased 4 wreaths from Hamburg Holidays to place at our entrances. He also asked the Garden Club if they could place one each at the garden gate and sign at Buffalo St.

#### **Binge Bundles**

These are now available. These are themed bundles of movies and can be found on the top of the audiobook shelves. They range from 3-6 titles. Thanks to Ashley for coming up with the idea.

#### **Outreach**

Ashley began presenting a monthly program at Smarty Pants, a daycare near the Fairgrounds. She is conducting programming for two classes. She also asked if they would be interested in starting classroom collections. This is a box of 25 items that are checked out on an agency card. All of the classes began this service in November.

#### **Middle Grade Collection**

The Middle Grade Fiction section (grades 5-8) is complete and the Nonfiction is still a work in progress. They hope to have it completed in a few weeks. Research has shown that reading for fun begins to drop off around the age of 9.

#### **Centennial Art Center**

The CAC held their Fall Art Show from November 7 through December 3 with a reception on opening night.

#### **Rental Assistance Session for Landlords**

On November 5<sup>th</sup> an Emergency Rental Assistance session for Landlords was held at the Hamburg Library. The session was sponsored by Senator Sean Ryan's office and presented by the WNY Law Center.

#### **Program offered this month include:**

##### **Halloween Scavenger Hunt**

An interactive outdoor scavenger hunt was set up from mid-October until mid-November in which 175 people participated.

Appreciation goes to Ashley & Maddy for organizing this.

### **Conductive Construction**

This free program for children 5 and up was held on October 23 with 2 children in attendance. They learned about electricity using squishy circuits and conductive play dough. This is part of the Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum and was presented by Young Audiences of WNY.

### **John Philip Sousa**

Mark Jones presented a program highlighting the history and music of John Philip Sousa. He supplemented his talk with photos and other documents. There were 8 adults in attendance.

### **Phoebe the Reading Dog**

On Oct. 2, Phoebe brought her friend Ragan who is in-training to be a service dog.

### **Story Time w/Miss Laurie**

Miss Laurie does a different theme each week on Wednesday morning. To date, 145 have attended.

### **School Tour**

On November 12, a class of 4 year olds from Hamburg Nursery School 4 year olds visited for a tour and a story with Miss Ashley.

### **Book Signing with Jack Livingston**

Local author Jack Livingston visited to talk about and sign his latest book, "A Lot like Fun-Only Different". 7 adults attended.

### **Lake Shore**

Programs offered this month include:

#### **Halloween Party**

Held on October 23 with 38 children and adults in attendance.

#### **Button Making**

On November 6 Young Audiences of WNY held a button making program with 2 children in attendance.

#### **Cookbook Club**

Held on November 8 with 8 in attendance. "Delish: Insanely Easy Casseroles" was the book.

#### **Estate Planning**

On November 1, attorney Dan Schuller gave a presentation on estate planning with 12 people in attendance.

#### **Halloween Movies**

"Tower of Terror" was the featured movie this month.

#### **EduKids**

EduKids began bringing classes once a week to the library starting October 5. Miss Stephanie read them stories and Director Hoth spoke about applying for an agency card.

**Story Time**—"Whoo's Ready for Story Time" is held on Tuesday mornings. Stephanie averages 7 children per week.

Murder Mystery packs were given to patrons to play with their friends at home.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Michelle Parker advised that Director Hoth submitted the letter to the Board for Dr. Schreiber to be approved and appointed for a full five- year term.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Dr. Holly Schreiber reported that all transactions were routine. All remaining funds were transferred to the Friends of the Library. Anita Metzger moved to approve the report, Cate Lee seconded, and the report was approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Friends Update-On October 28<sup>th</sup>, they discussed the procedures and ongoing fundraisers.
- b. Changes to Open Meeting Law—Agendas and reports must be posted 24 hours in advance of our meetings. Meeting minutes are to be available 2 weeks from meeting date.
- c. Update on Covid-Due to increased positivity rate, Family Story Time and Cook Book Club have been cancelled. Participation in the Holiday Concert & Story series with Santa will have a limited number of participants due to this as well. An author visit scheduled in December was also cancelled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Purchase of new shelving for Lake Shore-four units were purchased from Demco.
- b. Director Hoth purchased promotional items from Creative Advertising Specialties for a tablecloth to be used for outreach events, coffee mugs, and library card holders for children when applying for a library card. All items will have our library's name and image of the building. He will sell some of the mugs to recoup some of the cost.
- c. Reaffirmation of Personnel Policies & Procedures-  
Dr. Holly Schreiber made a motion to approve, Cate Lee seconded, and all were in favor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** N/A

**ADJOURNMENT:** Michelle Parker moved to adjourn the meeting,

The next meeting of the Hamburg Library Board of Trustees will take place on Monday, January 3, 2022, at 6:00 PM at the Hamburg Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheree Hillman

