

MEETING OF THE TOWN OF TONAWANDA LIBRARY BOARD, September 8, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Tonawanda Public Library was held on Tuesday September 8, 2015 at the Kenmore Library, 160 Delaware Road, Kenmore, New York, following due notice to trustees, official public notice to the Ken-Ton Bee and a posting in the Kenmore and Kenilworth Libraries. The following members were present:

Jason Aronoff, Annette Della Posta, Richard Geer, Sheila Ginnane, Jeanne Phillips, Stan Pustulka

Also attending: Dorinda Darden, Library Director of the Town of Tonawanda Public Library – Kenmore and Kenilworth Branches.

Chair, Sheila Ginnane called meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

APPROVAL/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

- No changes were made. Motion to accept the Agenda was made by Annette Della Posta, and seconded by Jeanne Phillips. Motion passed.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- Motion was made by Stan Pustulka to accept the proposed minutes from August 11, 2015, and seconded by Rick Geer. Motion passed.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

- Motion was made by Annette Della Posta to accept the Treasurer's Report, and seconded by Stan Pustulka. Motion passed.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR SHEILA GINNANE:

Chair Sheila Ginnane contacted Councilwoman Lisa Chimera, the Library representative from the Town of Tonawanda Town Board, to inquire whether volunteers working at the Kenilworth Library would be covered by Town insurance, Councilwoman Chimera talked with Town Attorney, John Flynn, who asked the Town insurance consultant and all volunteers are covered under our Town.

Chair sent letters to State Senator Marc Panepinto and State Assemblyman Robin Schimminger thanking them for their support in securing the 2014-2015 Public Library Construction Grants that will be used to refurbish the elevator at the Kenmore Library and the windows in the Community Room at the Kenilworth Library as well as their automatic door opener.

The Chair received an invitation to the reception honoring our Library Director, Dorinda Darden, and other graduates of the Public Library Administration Certificate Program from the Palmer School of Library and Information Science. The Chair will attend the event on Tuesday, September 15, 2015.

REPORT OF LIBRARY DIRECTOR DORINDA DARDEN:

For September 8, 2015

STATISTICS

Circulation:

Kenmore:	August 2014:	26,816	August 2015:	25,446	-5.1%
Kenilworth:	August 2014:	7,486	August 2015:	6,596	-11.9%

Patron Visits:

Kenmore:	August 2014:	15,362	August 2015:	13,733	-10.6%
Kenilworth:	August 2014:	5,773	August 2015:	5,533	- 4.2%

Programs:

The Kenilworth Branch hosted the following *Special Family Programs*: The *SPCA Wildlife Program* was held on August 4th with 11 children and 9 adults in attendance. The *Hawk Creek: Birds of Prey Program* was presented on August 6th with 12 children and 8 adults in attendance. The *Wondermakers* presented a show featuring folktales from around the world on August 11th with 19 children and 10 adults in attendance. The *Zoomobile: Predator vs. Prey Program* was presented on August 13th with 32 children and 16 adults in attendance. Creative Child Day Care visited the Kenmore Branch on August 14th to read and check out books. There were 28 children and 5 adults for a total of 33 in attendance. Jugglers Dave and Kyle Fultz from *Gravitational Bull* performed their juggling and comedy act on August 18th with 19 children and 11 adults in attendance. Local Herpetologist David Banchich presented the *All Sorts of Snakes Program* on August 20th with 17 children and 12 adults in attendance. The *Batphile: Explore the Mysterious World of Bats Program* was presented on August 25th with 13 children and 12 adults in attendance and the *Secret World of Spiders Program* was presented on August 27th with 10 children and 12 adults in attendance. The *Special Family Programs* at the Kenilworth Branch were attended by 133 children and 90 adults for a total of 223 in attendance.

The Kenmore Branch hosted the following *Special Family Programs*: *In Jest* featuring Nels Ross performed some juggling, comedy and magic on August 4th with 46 children and 26 adults. The *Hawk Creek: Birds of Prey Program* was presented on August 6th with 48 children and 22 adults in attendance. The *Wondermakers* presented a show featuring folktales from around the world on August 11th with 43 children and 22 adults in attendance. The *Zoomobile: Predator vs. Prey Program* was presented on August 13th with 42 children and 25 adults in attendance. Jugglers Dave and Kyle Fultz from *Gravitational Bull* performed their juggling and comedy act on August 18th with 26 children and 17 adults in attendance. Local Herpetologist David Banchich presented the *All Sorts of Snakes Program* on August 20th with 46 children and 26 adults in attendance. The *Batphile: Explore the Mysterious World of Bats Program* was presented on August 25th with 25 children and 16 adults in attendance and the *Secret World of Spiders Program* was presented on August 27th with 34 children and 15 adults in attendance. The *Special Family Programs* at the Kenmore Branch were attended by 310 children and 169 adults for a total of 479 in attendance. Kenilworth and Kenmore Branch Manager **Amy Christman** facilitated the *Adult Monthly Journal Group* at the Kenmore Branch on August 4th. There were 7 in attendance. Kenilworth and Kenmore Branch Manager **Amy Christman** facilitated the monthly *Adult Book Discussion Group* at the Kenilworth Branch on August 5th. There were 7 in

attendance. Kenmore Branch Librarian **Nicole Bermingham** presented the *Toddler Time for Twos Program* on August 7th at the Kenmore Branch. There were 14 children and 13 adults for a total of 27 in attendance. Creative Child Day Care visited the Kenmore Branch on August 14th to read and check out books. There were 28 children and 5 adults for a total of 33 in attendance. Kenmore Branch Librarian **Peter Kirsch** facilitated the *Teen Gaming Night* for ages 13-17 at the Kenmore Branch on August 25th. There were a total of 4 teens in attendance. Kids' Kampus Child Care Center visited the Kenilworth Branch on August 27th to read and check out books. There were 22 children and 4 adults for a total of 26 in attendance. The *JUMPBUNCH Sports and Fitness Program* for Kids ages 6-10 featuring activities to build coordination, balance, and confidence through warm-ups, stretches, floor exercises and an introduction to a wide variety of sports was held at the Kenmore Branch on August 31st. There were 13 children and 4 adults for a total of 17 in attendance.

The Kenmore Branch participated in the 17th *Annual Battle of Books* on August 1st held at the Erie Community College South Campus. Kenmore Branch Librarians **Nicole Bermingham** and **Jill Jablonski** accompanied their *Battle of the Books Teams*. They had two full teams along with two student volunteers and one adult volunteer with 17 youth and 3 adults for a total of 20 in attendance. **Nicole** and **Jill** provided a *Pizza Party* on August 6th for the *Battle of the Books* participants. There were 9 youth and 2 adults for a total of 11 in attendance.

Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda Darden** had a phone interview with Ken-Ton Bee Copy Editor Beth Hutchinson on August 13, 2015 about the 2014-2015 *New York State Library Construction Grant* awarded to both the Kenilworth and Kenmore Branch Libraries. Ms. Hutchinson published an article titled *State grant to aid area libraries* in the August 19, 2015 issue of the Ken-Ton Bee about the grants.

The Kenmore Branch received a check dated August 18, 2015 from Mrs. Beverly R. Kenline-Blette of Lakeview, NY in the amount of \$100.00 as a *Memorial Gift for Dorothy Mist* who passed away on August 9, 2015. The letter attached said that Dorothy Mist was an "Avid reader and lifelong lover of books." Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda Darden** sent Mrs. Beverly R. Kenline-Blette a Thank You Letter for the donation.

Kenilworth and Kenmore Branch Manager **Amy Christman** was interviewed by Rebecca Cuthbert from the publication *Forever Young* on August 27th. Ms. Cuthbert is writing an article about Creative Writing and Seniors, and was referred to **Amy Christman** because of the monthly *Adult Journal Group* held at the Kenmore Branch. The interview covered the inception of the group, how it works, what ages attend, and what benefits are derived for the participants. The article should appear in the October issue of *Forever Young*, and may also be published in the on-line version of the publication.

The *Independent Reading Club* for children ages 12 and under began in July and continued through August at the Kenilworth Branch. During August, there were 8

participants in the 5 and under, and there were 12 participants in the 6-12 age group for a total of 20 participants for the month. The totals for July and August were 58 children registered, and 30 participants. The children read for a total of 35,024 minutes and 1,282 books were completed. Jackson Tyrell read for the most minutes at 8675 and Landon Cino read the most books at 130. Both children won \$25.00 Target Gift Cards. The Kenilworth Branch had 7 children participate in the *Read Down Your Fines Program* for ages 16 and under throughout the summer. In total, they read for 895 minutes.

Displays at the Kenilworth Branch throughout the month included two Children's Display troughs, one featuring Craft books for kids, and one featuring the Summer Reading Program theme *Every Hero Has a Story*, with books about superheroes and everyday heroes. Also, the Adult display highlighted the *Adult Reading Challenge* created by Kenilworth Branch Library Associate **Margaret Kunz**. The *Adult Reading Challenge* runs through September 15th and is designed to get patrons to read books on subjects and by authors they might not choose on their own.

The *Independent Reading Club* for children ages 12 and under began in July and continued through the end of August at the Kenmore Branch. During August, there were 21 participants in the 5 and under age group and 25 participants in the 6-12 age group for a total of 46 participants during August. The totals for July and August were 108 registered, 34 children 5 and under participated, and 41 ages 6-12 participated. There were 2,419 books read, and children read for a total of 35,423 minutes (590.38 hours). Mark Baxter read the most minutes at 3,418 and Megan Kiel read the most books at 156. Both children won \$25.00 Target Gift Cards and a small gift bag full of prizes.

The Kenmore Branch had 58 children participate in the *Read Down Your Fines Program* for ages 16 and under throughout the summer. In total, they read for 8,820 minutes.

There were 122 entries in the *Adult Summer Give Away* at the Kenmore Branch. MaryAnn Lewandowski was the winner of the bag of library related items. Sara Pilarski was the winner of the Branch prize for the *Online Summer Reading Contest* entered for the Kenmore Branch. Sara received a \$25.00 Amazon Gift Card.

Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda Darden** worked the *Ask Us 24/7 Virtual Reference Chat* service on August 5th and August 19th for a total of 2 hours.

Kenilworth Branch Librarian **Sarah McLean-Plunkett** attended the *Back to the Future: Preserving the Past with New York Heritage + Digital Public Library of America Webinar* presented by South Central Regional Library Council on August 5th.

As a member of the Zonta Club of Kenmore, Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda Darden** attended the *Zonta Club of Kenmore's Salad Fest Fundraiser* held at the Ensminger Senior Citizen Center on August 5th.

Kenilworth Branch Librarian **Sarah McLean-Plunkett** attended the *Back to the Future Part II: Learning with ALA's Center for the Future of Libraries Webinar* presented by South Central Regional Library Council on August 7th.

Kenilworth Branch Librarian **Sarah McLean-Plunkett** attended the *Back to the Future Part III: Libraries and the New Technology Frontier Webinar* presented by South Central Regional Library Council on August 10th.

Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda** attended the *Manager-Director Meeting* held at the Central Library on August 12th.

Kenilworth Branch Librarian **Sarah McLean-Plunkett** attended the first *Customer Service Committee Meeting* held at the Central Library on August 17th.

Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda Darden** attended the **Public Library Administrator's Certificate Program (PLACP)** class held at the Orchard Park Library on August 17th and the Hamburg Public Library on August 18th.

Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda** attended the *Town of Tonawanda Community Meeting* held at Brighton Place on August 25th.

Town of Tonawanda Public Library Director **Dorinda Darden** held *Staff Meetings* at the Kenmore Branch on August 26th and at the Kenmore and Kenilworth Branches on August 28th.

Kenilworth and Kenmore Branch Manager **Amy Christman** held a *Librarians Meeting* at the Kenilworth Branch on August 27th, which was attended by Kenmore Branch Librarians **Nicole Bermingham**, **Jill Jablonski**, and **Peter Kirsch**.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Request for Retirement Payout Assistance.

Director Darden sent a letter to the Library system's Chief Financial Officer, Ken Stone, recommending that the system pay for the additional money still owed to former Librarian Sue Makowski upon her retirement from the Buffalo and Erie County Library system. Ken Stone responded saying that the system would pay the money owed to Sue Makowski.

Kenilworth Library Garden Proposal

Director Darden reported that Melissa Foster of the Kenmore Village Improvement Society and the volunteers for the Kenilworth Library Garden were to have the meeting to discuss costs of the project. Director Darden will contact Melissa Foster to get the results of the meeting.

Mini-Branch Exploration

Jason Aronoff reported that there had been essentially no progress on the min-branch possibility over the last month because Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski could not meet with Jason to go over the exact costs for opening a mini-branch at the former Brighton Public Library. Library Director Jakubowski had a number of meetings and trips which prevented her from meeting with Jason. The meeting will be held in September.

Late last week Jason sent an email to Town of Tonawanda Councilwoman Lisa Chimera asking if the closing of the Huntley Power plant would affect any funding for the mini-branch. He has not heard from Lisa yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

National Library Card Sign-up Month.

Dorinda Darden noted that September was National Library Sign-up Card Month. The branch library that has the most new card holders will get to attend a catered lunch paid for by library system Director Mary Jean Jakubowski. There also will be a Library Book Raffle contest for children and one for adults at the Kenmore and Kenilworth libraries for those who sign up for new cards.

Exploration of a Teen Space at the Kenmore Branch.

After seeing the teen room space at the Hamburg Public Library, Director Dorinda Darden felt that the Town of Tonawanda Public Libraries could find the space for an area in which young adult material and special furniture can be placed to encourage more library use by teens. The teen space at Hamburg is not particularly large. Dorinda will gather more information about other teen areas at other libraries.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

A motion was made by Jeanne Phillips and seconded by Annette Della Posta to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Stan Pustulka and seconded by Rick Geer. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm. The next meeting of the Town of Tonawanda Public Library Board will be on October 13, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Aronoff, Secretary