

Croton Free Library
Board Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2019

PRESENT

Trustees: Leslie Ellis, Barry Feinberg, Sid Franks, Lynn Kaudarer, Adora Lam, Mary McFerran, Susan Ranis.

Croton Free Library Association: Lisa Dashman, Kate Fabian, Meredith Hertlein, Laura Jaeger, Sara Mills-Cohen, Karen Zevin.

Library Director: Jesse Bourdon

ABSENT

Trustees: Sharyse Eisinger, Marianne Merola.

Association: Adam Decker, Patricia Foley, David Speyer.

Out-going CFLA president Karen Zevin called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

She explained the membership and the purpose of the CFLA. A motion was made and a vote was taken to accept the minutes of the April 24, 2018 Annual Meeting. It was passed unanimously.

She explained that a reaffirmation was required for the Trustee and Association Manual regarding the number of CFL Board Trustees, which is nine. The proposed change was accepted by a vote.

Kate Fabian was nominated as the new president of the CFLA, for a term of two years. Kate's bio was available for attendees. A motion was made and voted on to accept Kate as the new president, which was affirmed.

Karen introduced the continuing CFLA officers and the new members. She thanked all the Library volunteers. She reminded everyone of the May 18-19 Book and Bake Sale. She stated that the CFLA makes an annual commitment to donate \$30,000 to the Library.

CFLA Treasurer's Report

Meredith Hertlein went through the report, including:

- Overall revenue of \$44,957, a new "highest ever."
- Overall profits of \$39,461 – of which \$30,000 will be a gift to the Library.
- An 11% increase in Annual Appeal revenue year-to-year.
- Other donations of \$2,124 compared to \$0 in previous years.
- Donation box proceeds of \$587, continuing a rising trend since 2015.

A vote was taken to accept the report, and the motion was carried.

Board of Trustees Report

Current CFL president Leslie Ellis read the Mission Statement, then delivered the report, including:

- Approval of a construction grant to provide access for handicapped persons.
- The addition of a Teen librarian.
- The 6th annual Croton Reads focused on Lorraine Hansberry (who lived on Bridge Lane in Croton), including a recent biography of the playwright by Imani Perry.
- First-time student participation in America's Battle of the Books, a competition that incentivizes reading.

She thanked the Trustees, CFLA members, and Library Director for their active commitment to improving and supporting the library.

New Board Trustees

Kate introduced three candidates for Trustee: Leslie Ellis for a new 5-year term (ending in 2024), Susan Ranis for a 5-year term (ending in 2024), and Barry Feinberg for a 4-year term (ending in 2023). All were confirmed by a vote.

Library Director's Report

Jesse Bourdon reported a 9% increase in Children's Programs attendance and a 19% increase in Reference transactions. Also:

- The first-ever CFL Employee Handbook is awaiting final legal approval.
- Digital items are now being ordered by select librarians in each of the 40 Westchester libraries (vs. one librarian ordering for the whole county).

Jesse reminded everyone about the Library budget vote on May 21st. The Library is seeking a 2.2% increase (about \$18,500), to be allotted majorly to staff salaries, in part due to the rise in the minimum wage.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Dashman, CFLA Secretary