

Croton Free Library
Board Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2020

PRESENT

Trustees: Jane Beller, Sharyse Eisinger, Leslie Ellis, Barry Feinberg, Lynn Kauderer, Adora Lam, Mary McFerran, Marianne Merola, Susan Ranis.

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

Library Director: Jesse Bourdon

ABSENT

Board Treasurer: Sid Franks.

Association: Patricia Foley.

CFLA president Kate Fabian called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

She welcomed everyone, and explained who is considered a member of the CFLA, and therefore eligible to vote. A motion was made and a vote was taken to accept the minutes of the April 23, 2019 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.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Annual Meeting was not held as usual in April. Because of its postponement, the CFLA, in consultation with the Library Director and the Board of Trustees, recommends that all positions on the CFLA and the Board be extended until the next Annual Meeting (April 2021). This particularly affects Meredith Hertlein, CFLA Treasurer, whose 2-year term was up in April 2020. A motion was made to extend her term, it was seconded, and passed by a vote.

Kate gave a summary of the CFLA's major activities since the April 2019 Annual Meeting, including the semi-annual Book & Bake Sale, an enthusiastic Battle of the Books, and a successful Annual Appeal that featured art by Jerry Pinckney. She reminded that the in-person fundraisers are suspended due to the pandemic, and invited everyone to donate to the current Annual Appeal.

CFLA Treasurer's Report

Meredith Hertlein went through the report, including:

- Overall revenue of \$45,335, a new "highest ever."
- Overall profits of \$38,980 – of which \$30,000 will be a gift to the Library.

- A 30% increase in Just Right Reads revenue year-to-year.
- A 20% increase in Other Donations revenue year-to-year.

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

Board of Trustees President's Report

CFL president Leslie Ellis emphasized that “our library is about community,” and had to re-think how to uphold that purpose in the face of the pandemic.

She thanked the Library Director, Library staff, Trustees, Safety Committee members, and CFLA President Kate Fabian for their commitment and actions towards supporting the library.

A motion was made to accept the report. It was seconded, a vote was taken, and the motion was carried.

Trustees Term Extensions

Kate introduced two items regarding Trustee positions:

- To extend the term of Adora Lam for another year, to make a full 5-year term (ending in April 2021). A motion was made, it was seconded, and a vote taken. The motion was carried.
- To extend the term of Sharyse Eisinger to the April 2021 Annual Meeting. (Sharyse's term was up in April 2020.) A motion was made, it was seconded, and a vote taken. The motion was carried.

Library Director's Report

Jesse Bourdon commented that “operating during a pandemic is not something we learned about in Library school.” He summarized the changes taken by Library staff, stating that “the Library was never *not* available to our patrons.” The changes included:

- Scheduling an array of programming online.
- Providing Reference chat capability via the website.
- Increasing the number of e-books and e-audiobooks available to patrons.

A motion was made to accept the report. It was seconded, a vote was taken, and the motion was carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Dashman, CFLA Secretary