

SUFFERN FREE LIBRARY  
ANNUAL ASSOCIATION MEETING/FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Trustees Present: Craig H. Long, Warren E. Berbit, Mario F. Pensa, Karen Bash-Romaner, Donalee Berard, Michael Minevich, Ben Naylor

Absent and Excused: Christine Gigante

Staff Present: Carol Connell Cannon, Library Director  
Madalen Klein

Public Present: William S. Gould 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jean R. Gould, Erb Cooper, Lazar Pilchick

In absence of Secretary Christine Gigante, President Craig H. Long appointed Donalee Berard Secretary Pro Tem.

President Craig H. Long called the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Board Meeting to order at 8:10 p.m. A quorum was established. The President welcomed the Board of Trustees and guests, and asked that all rise to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President asked the Board to review the February 28, 2017 minutes as received.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Warren E. Berbit, seconded by Ben Naylor, and carried to accept the minutes of the February 28, 2017 Annual Meeting. Motion approved.  
Abstention: Karen Bash-Romaner.

Treasurer's Report –Mario F. Pensa

Donalee Berard read the Treasurer's report for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 –June 30, 2017 and for the first half of the current fiscal year July 1, 2017 –June 30, 2018. (Report Attached)

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Donalee Berard, seconded by Herbert Cooper, and carried to accept the Treasurer's Annual Report as presented. The motion approved unanimously.

President's Report –Craig H. Long

President Craig H. Long noted that the Suffern Free Library has been serving the community for 92 years. The Library is the "Heart of the Community" implementing innovative services to meet the demands of the community. The Library provides information, services, resources, and educational programs to support learning for all.

The President announced some of the *Highlights of 2017*:

- The Library upgraded and expanded the Wi-Fi network and digital services.
- There are now 7 charging stations throughout the building and we are also lending out charging cables.
- In 2017, 8,027 people participated in 318 events. Throughout the year, 716 teens participated in 73 programs and 13,239 children participated in 848 programs.
- Over 1000 books were given out to children as part of the *Build a Home Library*.

- Study rooms were used 848 times as well as meeting rooms for 149 community meetings.
- The book sale volunteers netted \$25,364 for the Library which supports Library programs as well as the children's Summer Reading Programs.

The President thanked Carol Connell Cannon, The Board of Trustees, Staff and Volunteers for their dedication and hard work.

Suffern resident Lazar Pilchick, expressed concern regarding the 2% increase real property tax for the annual support of the Suffern Free Library. After a brief discussion and explanation of the increase, the President suggested that Mr. Pilchick meet with the Director to review the Library's budget.

President Craig H. Long asked for a motion to suspend the meeting at 8:49 p.m. for the Trustee votes to be counted by William S. Gould 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jean R. Gould.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Donalee Berard, seconded by Karen Bash-Romaner, and carried to suspend the Annual Meeting at 8:49 p.m.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Ben Naylor, seconded by Michael Minevich, and carried to reconvene the Annual Meeting at 9:03 p.m. for the Trustee election results.

Jean R. Gould announced the Trustee election results:

Warren E. Berbit	23	votes
Mario F. Pensa	23	votes
Michael Minevich	25	votes
Karen Bash-Romaner	25	votes
Erb Cooper	22	votes

**MOTION**

Donalee Berard motioned, seconded by Mario F. Pensa and carried to accept and declare Warren E. Berbit, Mario F. Pensa and Michael Minevich Trustees for 3 year terms of office. Trustee Karen Bash-Romaner for 2 year term of office to complete the unexpired term of Amy MacKenzie and Trustee Erb Cooper for 1 year term of office to complete the unexpired term of Kathleen J. Hugh. Motion approved.

The President thanked William S. Gould 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jean R. Gould for counting the votes and welcomed Erb Cooper to the Board of Trustees.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Mario F. Pensa, seconded by Karen Bash-Romaner and carried to adjourn the Annual Association meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donalee Berard  
Secretary Pro Tem