

YONKERS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD MEETING  
GRINTON I. WILL BRANCH  
JULY 23, 2014

**ATTENDANCE**

TRUSTEES:	Nancy Maron Alexandre Olbrecht Jim Buckley Jennifer Lemiech-Iervolino Gregory Arcaro
LIBRARY DIRECTOR:	Stephen E. Force
DEPUTY DIRECTOR:	Edward Falcone
BUSINESS MANAGER:	Barbara Quis
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:	Sarah McAllister
YONKERS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE WLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES:	Mary Amato
UNION REPRESENTATIVE:	Cheryl Johnson, Clerk I Typist Riverfront Library
STAFF REPRESENTATIVE:	None

The Board meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

On motion of Tr. Arcaro, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of June 18, 2014.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Force told the Board members that about seven years ago a committee consisting of Director Force, Deputy Director Falcone, two Trustees, Branch Administrator Susan Thaler and Judith Schwartzstein from Sarah Lawrence College, was formed for the purpose of selecting art exhibits for the art gallery at Riverfront. Eventually, Susan Kart, Professor of Art History at Sarah Lawrence College, was designated by the committee as curator. Susan Kart will be leaving for a new position and Haifa Bint-Kadi has volunteered to become the new curator. Director Force distributed Ms. Bint-Kadi's resume to Board members. He suggested setting up a new art committee consisting of Director Force, Deputy Director Falcone, 2 current Trustees, Branch Administrator Susan Thaler and possibly Judith Schwartzstein to oversee and approve Ms. Bint-Kadi's curatorship. The curator will present art exhibit recommendations to be approved by the new committee.

On motion of Tr. Maron, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board approved the appointment of Haifa Bint-Kadi, for a one year term, as art curator for the Yonkers Public Library.

Director Force said that on July 30th an episode of "Blue Bloods" will be filmed at the Crestwood Branch. The Crestwood Branch staff will report to either Grinton I. Will Branch or the Riverfront Library on that day.

Director Force informed the Board members that on Tuesdays and Wednesdays the Riverfront Library hosts the Reading Buddies Program. He reported that over 400 children attended yesterday's program along with the Superintendent of Yonkers Public Schools and a few City Council members.

Director Force told the Board members that Staff Recognition Day has been re-scheduled for Friday, October 24, 2014.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Deputy Director Falcone referred to his monthly report which indicates that circulation has gone down in the month of June. As of this date, he has not received any word from the COY Finance Department confirming a bond sale this fall. He informed the Board members that this delay has detained the use of funds from the capital and operating budgets by the Library.

Deputy Director Falcone said that hopefully the Technology Training Center plans will be bid out by early fall. The DASNY grant may be forthcoming by August. He told the Board members that he hasn't received news from other grant applications but he does inquire about their status often.

Deputy Director Falcone told the Board members that due to the fact that the Grinton I. Will Branch building is over 50 years old, The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has requested submission of plans to them for the Library's intended renovations. He said that the architects are aware of this and presently will be investigating as well as answering the progression of requests by SHPO.

Deputy Director Falcone addressed Tr. Maron's comments regarding how pleased she was to have read in Branch Administrator Susan Thaler's Quarterly Report that the Library's Branch Administrators will be conducting quarterly staff departmental meetings. The Board members were briefed on the positivity of these meetings by Deputy Director Falcone.

### **UNION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

Union Representative Cheryl Johnson reported she was not presented with any union requests at this time. Ms. Johnson said she was presented with one question from one staff member: ask the Board members if employee raises will be forthcoming. Tr. Arcaro said that the issue of salary raises is contractual.

### **STAFF REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT** - None

### **WLS REPORT**

Mary Amato, WLS Representative, stated that applications for the NYS construction grant for 2014-2018 are available.

### **PERSONNEL REPORT**

On motion of Tr. Olbrecht, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board ratified the following appointments:

Tinamarie Lucchese, Clerk I, \$32,177, eff. 6/20/14  
Yesceli Torres-Valencia, P/T Page, \$8.00/hr., eff. 6/28/14  
Rose Hatem, P/T Page, \$8.00/hr., eff. 6/28/14  
Yaw Eshun, P/T Page, \$8.00/hr., eff. 7/5/14  
Jody Maier, P/T Librarian II, \$25.35/hr., eff. 7/12/14  
Jose Moscol, P/T Page, \$8.00/hr., eff. 7/19/14

The Board acknowledged the following termination:  
Radilsa DeLeon, P/T Page, \$9.05/hr., eff. 6/14/14

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Budget & Planning:** Maron, Olbrecht, Buckley

Tr. Maron distributed copies of her outline regarding the Yonkers Public Library Budget Process. She said that her report defines what the Board can do in terms of contributing at the milestones that are already in place by Finance. Tr. Maron also suggested scheduling a meeting with Jerry Nichols, consultant, who she feels would be instrumental in assisting with an advocacy committee.

### **Finance:** Maron, Olbrecht, Buckley, Margand

Tr. Arcaro, as well as the Board members, complimented Business Manager Barbara Quis regarding her excellent handling of finances on behalf of the Library.

On motion of Tr. Buckley, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board agreed to roll over the following CD:

7/25/14 John Jutkowitz Theater Fund, Sterling National Bank,  
\$10,335.64 @0.55%

### **Employee Relations:** Maron, Buckley, Margand

### **Buildings & Grounds:** Maron, Lemiech-Iervolino, Arcaro

Deputy Director Falcone referred the Board members to the front of the Grinton I. Will Branch building which was beautifully landscaped by Eagle Scout Troop #25.

**Fundraising & Development:** Maron, Olbrecht, Margand

**RATIFICATION OF BILLS**

On motion of Tr. Buckley, seconded and carried, the Board ratified payment of bills as listed on Schedule #746.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

On motion of Tr. Olbrecht, seconded and unanimously carried, the Board elected Tr. Gregory Arcaro to serve as Vice President for the 2014 Yonkers Public Library Board of Trustees, replacing Curtis Kendrick.

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

**NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE** – Thursday, September 4, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Crestwood Branch.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Stephen E. Force  
Library Director & Secretary