



**ALFRED BOX OF BOOKS**

**AGENDA BOARD MEETING  
Zoom Meeting  
Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
4:00 PM**

- 1. Approval of minutes: June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021**
- 2. Treasurer's Report: June and July 2021**
- 3. Director's Report: June and July 2021**
- 4. New Business:**
  - **Maker's on Main report**
  - **Community Focus Group – September 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 - 11**
- 5. Other**
- 6. Next meeting (Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00pm, via Zoom)**
- 7. Adjournment**



## June & July 2021 Director's Report

### Meetings Attended:

- 6/8- Allegany County Library Director's Association
- 6/9- Met with Caitlin Brown & Rebecca Weaver Hamm re: LTC Grant *Perspectives from the Pandemic*
- 6/17- DEI Programming Subcommittee Meeting
- 7/7- Decolonizing the Catalog Workshop
- 7/18- STLS Focus Group
- 7/27- ILL Training with Lorie Brown STLS

### Activities/ FYI:

- Summer reading began June 28. Registration numbers are at an all-time low with just 8 adults, 4 teens, and 22 children registered. Program participation has been very hit or miss, too. In discussions with directors from across the system, this seems to be a common theme. (For reference we had 60 children signed up last year).
- Appalachian Regional Commission grant: Equipment to be purchased- 1 Chromebook, 2 laptops, 1 desktop, 1 color printer. Total cost \$3,436. Our match \$1,031.00. Per Rima's Technology Replacement plan, this would replace 1 public computer purchased in Jan 2017, and 2 laptops purchased in Jan 2017, and a color printer purchased in 2014.
- NASA @ My Library Grant- Submitted a grant proposal with letters of support from Dave Toot and Kathy Sherman. This will coordinate programming surrounding the launch of the James Webb telescope, return of photographs from the James Webb telescope, and incorporate next year's summer reading program theme "An Ocean of Possibilities."
- Coordinated the delivery of Allegany DOH supplies and information on vaccines to all Allegany county libraries.
- DEI 2<sup>nd</sup> Newsletter- DEI Programming subcommittee released its second newsletter containing tips, programming ideas, book releases, and upcoming holidays in it system-wide. Melanie puts coordinates the publication of the letter quarterly.
- DEI Book Discussion- Melanie led the DEI Book Discussion with Kelly Povero from Montour Falls in June discussing *We Are Water Protectors* and *When You Trap A Tiger*.
- Completed Library Juice Academy course *Allyship, Anti-Oppression Practices, and Building Inclusive Libraries*. This is course 3 of 4 in the Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion. (Finish in October)
- Hired David Steere- Maintenance position.

- Received \$1,000 donation from Marc Olshan in memory of Toni for the purchase of books. He again included book plates for the books. We have placed 1 order and will spread this out. Books will be displayed on the Toni Shelves.
- Makers on Main & *Perspectives from the Pandemic*. Makers on Main (8/7) will begin the first portion of the Libraries Transforming Communities grant project. Caitlin Brown, Rebecca Weaver-Hamm and Melanie will be working on this project together. Part one will ask participants to create a painting of their reflections from the pandemic. For the second part of the project, these will be displayed on October 21 at the community conversation during Art Walk. Caitlin, Rebecca, and Melanie will lead participants through a time to share their perspectives from the pandemic. Art work will then be installed in the library foyer.
- Benjamin Berry will be providing a hula hoop crafting and dance instruction workshop to culminate summer reading. He will provide all the materials, instruction, and a performance.
- Claire Volk has worked with us this summer and been a terrific addition to staff. She has helped with summer reading and helped with organizational projects. She has been a wonderful asset.

### **Programming Report**

- June 1: True Crime Book Club 9A
- June 8: Star Talk 7A
- June 22: Star Talk 7A
- June 24: Star Party: 9A
- June 29: 4-H Presentation 0
- July 6: Star Talk: 6A
- July 6: True Crime Book Club: 9A
- July 7: Cornell Lab of Ornithology Citizen Science: 1A
- July 13: Letterpress Printing Allegany Arts: 1T
- July 14: Story Time with Guiding Eyes: 6C, 4A, 1T
- July 15: Elephant Toothpaste: 7C; 2T; 5A
- July 20: Star Talk: 6A
- July 22: DIY Cat Toys & Dog Treats: 1C 1A
- July 24: Skype a Scientist Ariel Pezner: 0
- July 27: Paper Marbling Allegany Arts: 4C; 3A
- July 29: Backyard Habitats: canceled weather

### **Take and Make Kits:**

Origami Bookmarks: 28  
 Air Dry Clay Magnets: 26  
 Weaving Turtles: 24  
 Galloping Zebra: 19  
 Bendy Straw Snake: 23

**Technology Report  
Statistics-**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
Circulation	<b>June: 1015   July 850</b>	640
Holds Received	<b>June: 251   July 270</b>	66
Holds Filled	<b>June: 267   July 307</b>	74
Users Added	<b>June: 1   July 3</b>	1
Items Added	<b>June: 71   July: 71</b>	83
eBooks	<b>June: 118   July: 118</b>	118
Audiobooks	<b>June: 143   July : 147</b>	147
ILL	<b>N/A</b>	N/A
RB Digital/ Overdrive Magazines	<b>June: 27   July: 12</b>	3

**Goals for August**

- Finish up summer reading and plan for September/October programs
- Makers on Main program
- Finalize community survey

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melanie A. Miller







## **ALFRED BOX OF BOOKS**

### **Board Meeting Minutes Zoom Meeting Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Present:** Allison Snyder, President; Lesley Brill, Treasurer; Megan Parry; Pat Crandall; Sam Frechette; Mechele Romanchock; Debbie Stephens; Amy Powers; Maria Rhone, Secretary

**Also Present:** Melanie Miller, Library Director; Rima O'Connor, Technology Coordinator

President Allison Snyder called the meeting to order at 3:59 pm.

**1. Approval of minutes: June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021:** Pat moved the approval of the June minutes, Megan seconded. The minutes were approved.

**2. Treasurer's Report: June and July 2021:** Allison moved to approve the June and July report, Maria seconded. The June and July reports were approved. Les reported there will be taxpayer money coming in over the next couple of months as expected. Overall, the library is in good financial shape.

**3. Director's Report: June and July 2021:**

- Summer reading numbers are lower than past years. This seems to be a trend throughout the system. Outdoor programming numbers fluctuate possibly due to the weather.
- Melanie has requested some new technology (computers/printer) from a grant that is for workforce development. The Box of Books would match \$1,000 for this grant.
- Another grant from the American Library Association is submitted, although the strict demographic requirements may prevent us from getting it.
- Melanie has been attending various classes and workshops.

**4. New Business:**

- Maker's on Main report: Through a Libraries Transforming Communities grant, community members created artwork that were reflections on the pandemic. This project will include a community conversation and art show

during the October 21<sup>st</sup> art walk. Melanie will be attending future farmers markets to get more participation in this project. The Cuba Patriot is expected to include an article about this project.

- Community Focus Group – September 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 – 11 am at the Terra Cotta. Brian suggested we hold this because we have not had as many survey responses as we had hoped for. This will provide additional data and hopefully get more people involved in the conversation. Postcard invitations will be sent out soon.

**5. The next meeting Monday will be on September 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm at the library.** Board meetings will now be held in person because the Executive Order allowing for Zoom meetings under NYS Open Meeting law expired.

The meeting was adjourned by Allison at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Rhone, Secretary