



ALFRED BOX OF BOOKS

AGENDA BOARD MEETING Monday, March 8th, 2022 4:00 PM

1. Approval of Minutes: February 15, 2022
2. Treasurer's Report: February 2022
3. Director's Report: February 2022
- 4 New Business:
 - Guest: Brian Hildreth
 - Niche Academy
5. . Old Business:
 - Budget Vote
 - Open Meeting Law
 - Pandemic Operations Plan
6. Other
7. Next meeting (Tuesday, April 5th or 19th at 4:00pm)
8. Adjournment



February 2022 Director's Report

Meetings Attended:

- 2/16- Presented at the New York State Summer Learning Workshop (Incorporating STEM In Sensory Sidewalks)
- 2/18- Radio interview with Joel Oriend WQRW for Library Advocacy
- 2/23- Led Director's Advisory Council DEI Book Club Book Discussion this month
- 2/24- ALA ARP Humanities Orientation webinar
- 2/28- Met with Kevin Adams & Ron Foster to finalize Kiss the Ground program

Activities/ FYI:

- The library was awarded an Arts Council Grant (\$990). This project will include Maria Rhone teaching a series of art workshops this summer.
- Kiss the Ground film panel discussion will take place on March 3 from 6-7:30. This is a collaboration with Alfred University Libraries, Alfred State's Hinkle Library and the Box of Books. We have 3 panelists- Jessica Hutchison (Alfred State), Jerry Snyder (Sunny Cove Farm), and Sasha Khodorkovskaya (Living Acres Farm)
- Website updates: Added Talking Book and Braille Library information; News about the ARP grant; updated policy manual; updated strategic plan; Africa Reading challenge page.
 - Will also be adding information about mask recommendations.
- ARP Humanities Grant: Funds must be spent between 3/1 and 8/31. I will be working closely with Alfred University Libraries and Hinkle Memorial librarians to begin coordinating some of these projects.
- Annual report was submitted!! It will go through a series of reviews by STLS Consultants. Once these reviews are complete and it is submitted to the State, I will begin drafting the newsletter to the community.
- Working on Foundation for Southern Tier Libraries Grant. Will be asking for funds for Large Print items. This is something we have neglected in the collection, but are seeing an increasing demand for.
- Will be participating in Library Advocacy Day on March 2 and meeting with Assemblyman Giglio and Senator Borrello to advocate for library aid and construction funding in the Governor's budget.

Programming Report

- 2/1- Star Talk with Mary Lu- 7A

- 2/1- True Crime Book Club-7A
- 2/2- Storytime from home- 1A 1C
- 2/9- Storytime from Home- 0
- 2/15- Star Talk with Mary Lu- 8A
- 2/17- Travelogue: Joshua Tree- 1A
- 2/23- Encanto Movie- 0
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Technology Report

2/2- Melanie met with homeschool family to teach how to use library research databases, conduct Google search and save links.

Statistics-

	2022	2020
Circulation	910	
Holds Received	267	
Holds Filled	226	
Users Added		
Items Added	74	
eBooks	100	
Audiobooks	100	
ILL	3	
Magazines		

Goals for March

- Finalize Summer Reading Plans
- Finish Foundation for Southern Tier Libraries Grant
- Set up initial planning meetings for ARP grant programs

Respectfully Submitted,
Melanie A. Miller



ALFRED BOX OF BOOKS

Meeting Minutes via Zoom Tuesday, March 8th, 2022

Present: Allison Snyder, President; Megan Parry; Lesley Brill, Treasurer; Debbie Stephens, Vice President; Amy Powers; Pat Crandall; Maria Rhone, Secretary

Also Present: Melanie Miller, Library Director; Rima O'Connor, Technology Coordinator; Brian Hildreth, Executive Director of STLS

Absent: Mechele Romanchock, Sam Frechette

President Allison Snyder called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

1. **Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2022:** Les moved to approve the November minutes, Debbie seconded. The minutes were approved.
2. **Treasurer's Report from February 2022:** Les reported that the checking account is in good shape; we are still working within our means. Les suggested moving \$4,000 from checking into the building account. Pat moved to approve and Allison seconded. All were in favor. Allison moved to approve the February report, Debbie seconded. The February report was approved.
2. **Director's Report: February 2022**
 - a. Melanie reported that the Kiss the Ground program was a great success. There was a panel discussion with local farmers and Jessica Hutchinson from Alfred State College about the film and regenerative agriculture.
 - b. Melanie reported receiving an Arts Council Grant. Maria Rhone will teach art classes this summer as part of the grant.
 - c. Melanie participated in Advocacy Day- an effort to restore funding to libraries. There are digital postcards and hard copies in the library that patrons can fill out and send to Albany to advocate for restored library funding.

4 New Business:

- **Guest: Brian Hildreth**

- Brian commended library board efforts in the strategic planning process thus far. He provided information about how to use the strategic planning documents to move forward in purchasing a new library building.
- He recommended that Melanie and Allison look into the Steuben Trust building for many reasons- good square footage, parking, greenspace, ideal for meeting 21st century goals, etc.
- Brian talked about the financial components and mentioned some options in addition to using some of the capital reserves. Options include construction aid and USDA Rural Development assistance.
- Brian assured the board that this is a doable endeavor and recommended that Melanie and Allison begin the process of looking into the new building.
- Melanie and Allison will also meet with the village to discuss Crandall Hall as a potential programming space.
- **Niche Academy:**
 - The American Rescue Plan Humanities Grant funds will pay for one year of the Niche Academy platform, which will be integrated with our website. Patrons will be able to get tutorials to use Libby, databases, etc. Patrons will have more access to programming and information.

5. **Old Business:**

- **Budget Vote:** The Box of Books board will meet with the Almond Library in the future to discuss collaborative planning and events.
- **Open Meeting Law:** Extended to March 16th.
- **Pandemic Operations Plan:** Discussed changes to the Pandemic Operations Plan. Allison made a motion to approve the new Pandemic Plan and Les seconded. Melanie will update the plan.

6. The next meeting is on Tuesday, April 5th at 4:00pm via Zoom.

7. The meeting was adjourned by Allison at 5:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Rhone, Secretary