Simsbury Public Library – Board of Trustees
Town of Simsbury, Connecticut
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 18, 2022, at 7:00 P.M.
Simsbury Public Library – Weatogue Room and Zoom

Present: Lisa Karim, Director of Simsbury Public Library; Kathleen Miller, Chair of Library Board of Trustees; Heather Goetz, Board of Selectman Liaison; Greg Golinski, President of the Friends of the Library; Mary Glassman, Linda Johnson, Holly McGrath, Mark Orenstein, and Susan Rubenstein.

Absent: Polly Rice, Vice Chair of Library Board of Trustees; Tolly Gibbs and Dave Blume

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 16, 2022

MOTION: Ms. McGrath made a motion to accept the Minutes for the May 16, 2022, meeting as written. Mr. Orenstein seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC AUDIENCE

No public audience was present.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Miller stated she received the Strategic Plan postcard.

FRIENDS’ REPORT

Mr. Golinski reported that there was not an annual Friends’ Meeting in May due to the annual Author Luncheon and moving forward there will only be the annual meeting in May and they will move the Author Luncheon. This year the annual meeting was held in June.

Mr. Golinski will be the President and John Schuyler will be Treasurer for another year. They have also gotten more people to join the Friends and the Board.

There will be no July or August regular meeting, but there will be an Executive Board meeting during that time.
The Friends have been collecting books for the annual Book Sale, which will take place October 1st and 2nd, and will continue to collect until mid-September.

The Special Selections Sale took place in May, and Mr. Golinski suggested having an even more selective and specific sale moving forward.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

No report.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Ms. Karim reported that the Carol Stoeke statue has been installed in the north end of the building.

Ms. Karim thanked the Friends for passing the Library Support Budget for next year with an increase.

Although Simsbury has not had any book challenges, Ms. Karim shared information about recent challenges in Colchester and Coventry.

The Book Bike outreach has been successful with Rachel Gravel taking the lead on outreach and using the Book Bike to visit the Little Free Libraries in town to restock them. The Bike went to Tariffville over the weekend.

Ms. Miller brought up how successful the Touch-A-Truck event was, having brought in 699 people.

Ms. Miller asked for clarification on the identifying of adult non-fiction works being moved from social sciences to history for inclusivity. Ms. Karim used the example of books on the Stonewall Riots.

Ms. Miller brought up the Summer Reading Program’s over 1700 participants.

Ms. Karim stated that they have an upcoming interview for the Business and Career Center Coordinator and have selected candidates for the part time Adult Library Services Assistant and part time Adult Services Librarian. There are interviews for full time Adult Services Librarian. There are also three vacancies for Library Pages in the Children’s Department.

Ms. Miller noticed that under Circulation digital content was up 45% over last year, and Ms. Karim indicated that it was total circulation that was up 45%.

Ms. Miller thanked the Friends for financially supporting the author, Jerry Craft visiting Simsbury students. Ms. McGrath wanted to know about the process for schools getting authors to visit. Mr. Golinski responded that when schools do not have the funds the Friends may pitch in.
Ms. Miller commented that there is a strong relationship between the schools, the library, and the Friends.

Ms. McGrath stated that she was very impressed by the teen programming and the relationship between the teen departments at Simsbury Public Library and Avon Public Library. Ms. Karim commented that Mary, the Teen Librarian, has done a phenomenal job keeping the teens engaged when usually this is the age group that starts to pull away from library involvement.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Ms. Karim said that the year-end closure finance report will be given in August because bills are still trickling in from last fiscal year.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Not needed.

Mr. Orenstein made a motion to adjourn. Ms. McGrath seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:21 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Blaze
Commission Clerk