

SOUTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY SYSTEM
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ANNUAL MEETING

May 20, 2019
Fort William Henry
Lake George, NY

MINUTES

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Southern Adirondack Library System was held on Monday, May 20, 2019 at the Fort William Henry Hotel and Conference Center in Lake George, New York and brought to order at 6:05 p.m. with SALS Board Trustee, Jordan Hornstein presiding.

Mr. Hornstein welcomed all those present and asked the SALS trustees to stand and be recognized: Linda Borden (Washington County/ Easton Library), Christine Connell (Saratoga County/Waterford Public Library), Carol Kuhr (Washington County), Elaine Cowin (Warren County/Richards Library), Janet Lindner (Saratoga County/Saratoga Springs Public Library), Russell Wise (Saratoga County/Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library). SALS trustees not present: Nancy Seifts (Hamilton County/Town of Lake Pleasant Public Library), Karen McComb (Hamilton County/Town of Lake Pleasant Public Library), Dale Nemer (Warren County/Crandall Public Library), Bob Odess (Washington County/Cambridge Public Library) and John Plantier (Warren County/Hadley-Luzerne Public Library).

Mr. Hornstein announced that the 2018 SALS Treasurer's Report, Central Library Report and SALS 2018 Highlights, Facts and Figures were on the tables. This information can also be found on the SALS website: www.sals.edu.

Mr. Hornstein welcomed member library trustees and asked Janet Lindner to take the Roll Call of member libraries and to determine the number of trustees at the meeting. Twenty-seven member libraries out of thirty-four were represented.

Mr. Hornstein acknowledged out-going library trustees Phyllis Meader and Margaret Mannix of the Caldwell-Lake George Library for the work they have accomplished as long-standing trustees of the library.

Mr. Hornstein asked if any member library had any announcements to make. No announcements.

Mr. Hornstein welcomed SALS staff present: Sara Dallas, Dianne Winter, Erica Freudenberger, Mary Hanley, Michele Largeteau, Diane Robinson, Chris Mundell, Jack Scott, Cindy Mirra, and Jill Ryder. He recognized special guests present: Bob Jeffords, SALS Treasurer; Serena Kirkpatrick, C.P.A., P.C. of Flynn Walker, Diggin; Lois Gordon Outreach Services/Adult Specialist of Mohawk Valley Library System; Don Cartmell, Librarian of Washington Correctional Facility; and John Thorn, Speaker and Official Historian of Major League Baseball.

Mr. Hornstein asked Carol Kuhr, representing the Library Services Committee, to present the Library Program of the Year Award to the:

Cambridge Public Library, Greenwich Free Library, Schuylerville Public Library for their *Better Readers Program*

These three libraries recognized an unmet need for basic literacy instruction in southern Washington and eastern Saratoga counties. The Tri-Library Partnership designed a successful adult literacy program, forming eight successful tutor-learner partnerships. This important outreach program promises to change lives as it continues flourishing and moving forward.

Crandall Public Library for their *Southern Adirondack Network Guide (SANG)*

In response to a forum on addressing intergenerational poverty and families in crisis, the library tasked itself to create connections for those in the community who were in the throes of crisis. The result was SANG: a unified, easily accessed, timely database and web portal for organizations and individuals in Warren, Washington, and Northern Saratoga Counties who serve these populations.

Mr. Hornstein asked Linda Borden, Chair of the Personnel Committee, to present the Library Trustee of the Year Award to:

Frederick G. Baily – Galway Public Library

In recognition of his outstanding work as a Trustee and Chair of the New Building Committee of the Galway Public Library, in addition to serving over the last eight years as Vice President, Finance Committee Chair, and Fund Development Committee member.

Mr. Baily has provided the guidance and knowledge to usher the library seamlessly through all stages of a major construction project. Through his hard work and dedication, he has positively impacted the library services offered to the Galway Public Library community for years to come.

Mr. Hornstein acknowledged three SALS Staff Awards to:

- Chris Mundell for 20 years of service
- Diane Robinson for 25 years of service
- Cindy Mirra for 35 years of service

Mr. Hornstein announced the Election of Trustees to fill the vacancy for Saratoga County. All member libraries were notified of the search process for a trustee from Saratoga County for a term specified in memos sent to each member library board president. A revised April 18th “Notice of Annual Business Meeting” informed every member library trustee of the candidates. The following candidates have agreed to serve if nominated, and whose term will expire May 2024:

- For Saratoga County: Russell Wise for his second five-year term.

Brief biographical information about the nominee was provided in the April 18th notice. Mr. Hornstein asked if there were other nominations from the floor. Hearing none, he instructed the secretary to cast one ballot for the person nominated by the Trustee Nominating Committee who is hereby elected by acclamation by the trustees of the member libraries of the Southern Adirondack Library System.

Mr. Hornstein introduced Sara Dallas, SALS Director. Mrs. Dallas thanked everyone for coming to Lake George to celebrate libraries and library services.

Mrs. Dallas noted that on each table is the SALS 2018 Year in Review. It has been a busy and productive year with more programs, more registered borrowers, and almost two million people visiting our 34 member libraries.

She shared some statistics about the SALS Facebook page. SALS began the year with 429 followers and ended with 1,346, an increase of 214%. The Facebook page has an organic reach (without purchasing ads) of 43,051,659 people. This number is significant because many organizations are struggling to retain organic reach, but SALS has been building it steadily.

Mrs. Dallas read some quotes about libraries and praised the SALS Board of Trustees and the SALS staff for the work they did over the past year.

She thanked the trustees, the Friends of the libraries, and the library staff for their commitment, dedication, and time to ensure their libraries remain strong and sustainable.

Mrs. Dallas thanked the SALS Board and SALS staff for their dedication and resilience.

Mr. Hornstein introduced John Thorn, who was the speaker for the evening.

Mr. Hornstein thanked everyone for coming, asked them to return their name tags on the way out, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Mirra

Recording Secretary