

**SOUTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
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**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**May 27, 2020**  
**Held online via GoToMeeting**  
**MINUTES**

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Southern Adirondack Library System was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 online via GoToMeeting and brought to order at 1:02 p.m. with SALS Board Trustee, Jordan Hornstein presiding.

Mr. Hornstein welcomed the SALS Board of trustees: 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), Nancy Seifts (Hamilton County/Town of Lake Pleasant Public Library), Dale Nemer (Warren County/Crandall Public Library), John Plantier (Warren County/Hadley-Luzerne Public Library). SALS trustees not present: Karen McComb (Hamilton County/Town of Lake Pleasant Public Library), and Bob Odess (Washington County/Cambridge Public Library).

Mr. Hornstein announced that the Agenda, along with the 2019 Statistical Summary and Year in Review Highlights documents were provided via email. This information will also be available on the SALS website: [www.sals.edu](http://www.sals.edu).

The Annual SALS Treasurer's Report can be found on page 22 of the Statistical Summary, and the Central Library Report from Kathy Naftaly, Director at Crandall Public Library can be found on page 23.

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 member libraries out of thirty-four were represented.

Mr. Hornstein recognized Sharon Shyne, who this year has been with SALS for 20 years.

Mr. Hornstein announced the Election of Trustees to fill the vacancies for Warren and Hamilton counties. All member libraries were notified of the search process for trustees from Warren and Hamilton Counties for a term specified in memos sent to each member library board president. The "Notice of Annual Business meeting" sent April 24<sup>th</sup> informed every member library trustee of the candidates. The following candidates have agreed to serve if nominated, and whose term will expire May 2025:

- For Warren County: Margaret Shapiro, for her first five-year term.
- For Hamilton County: Barbara F. Taylor, for her first five-year term.  
Jordan Hornstein, for his second five-year term.
- For Washington County: Linda Borden, for her second five-year term.
- For Saratoga County: Christine Connell, for her second five-year term.

Brief biographical information about the new nominees was provided in the April 14th notice. Mr. Hornstein asked if there were other nominations from the floor. Hearing no nominations Mr. Hornstein instructed the secretary to cast one ballot for the people nominated by the Trustee Nominating Committee who are 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 attending the meeting virtually. SALS and the member libraries once again, in 2019, experienced growth in service and support. SALS provided continuing education, consulting services, outreach opportunities for member library staff and boards. We supported libraries' automation needs and concerns, moved to a hosted environment, provided physical delivery of library materials among our libraries. SALS and our member libraries won National and State awards. Almost 2 million people visited our libraries, attended programs, and borrowed library materials.... And then we paused.

We were forced to close our physical doors – but due to work done in 2019, many of our staff were able to work remotely. There was 24/7 wireless access in place at all of our libraries. We offered econtent for people who lived in Saratoga, Hamilton, Warren, and Washington Counties. We were able to access our email and files remotely; we had access to video meetings - we had some things in place as we moved from physical to virtual.

That was easier to do. We had the training, experience, and knowledge to put those things in place.

But now it is different. There are no correct answers as the ground is continually shifting under our feet. We need to make decisions with the understanding that things and situations are going to change, so there will be a need to make adjustments and corrections and perhaps take a new path. We need to ASK for and Listen to and embrace input.

Quoting from my friend and Colleague – Christian Z – with a little bit of adaption by me -

“This is for all you - people who serve on their library boards, library directors and staff -

“As we begin to reopen the libraries in the SALS service area (and SALS is included), the pressures we will feel as leaders are going to increase. We are crucial to our libraries' future right now. It's okay to be nervous; it's okay to be scared. Those emotions will not stop us from doing what needs to be done. We can do this. You can do this.

We will help our staff and colleagues stay focused on the issues we have ahead of us. Together we are stronger. Act now. Act ceaselessly. Be resolute. Be Kind.

Mr. Hornstein asked if there were any questions for the Board or the Director. With no questions he said good afternoon and thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Mirra

