

SOUTHERN ADIRONDACK LIBRARY SYSTEM

22 WHITNEY PLACE □ SARATOGA SPRINGS NY 12866-4596
(518) 584-7300 □ FAX (518) 587-5589

SALS Board Meeting □ **March 19, 2024** at 1 p.m.
at SALS Service Center and Virtually via Zoom

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Southern Adirondack Library System was held Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the System Service Center and via Zoom, and brought to order at 1:00 p.m. with Vice President Janet Lindner presiding.

Present in-person were: Mmes. Beck, Connell, Cowin, Goodman, Kuhr, Lindner, Shapiro, and Taylor; and Messr. Hornstein. Present via Zoom was: Mmes. Vineyard. Also present were: Sara Dallas, SALS Director; Bob Jeffords, SALS Treasurer; Erica Freudenberger, SALS Outreach, Engagement & Marketing Consultant; Jack Scott, Technology & Youth Services; Colleen Smith, SALS Finance & Administration Manager; and Pamela DelSignore, SALS System Services Support Coordinator. Also present via Zoom were Jenn Richards, Ballston Community Public Library, Kristel Guimara, CVW Long Lake Public Library, and Thomas Shaginaw trustee candidate from Saratoga County.

Absent with prior notice were: Mmes. Borden and Messr. Wise.

The meeting was recorded. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ezii3Gksnhs>

1. Announcements: Add Review and Approve 2023 SALS Annual Report to the Agenda as item C. under New Business.

2. Public Comment

3. *Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2024:

Ms. Lindner asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the February 20, 2024, meeting. Having none, Ms. Cowin moved, seconded by Ms. Connell to approve the minutes to be filed as distributed. Ayes: All; Nays: None; Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. *Treasurer's Report and Monthly Budget Reports for February 2024. Warrants 2024-3 through 2024-5 and TA24-3 through TA24-4;

Mr. Jeffords reviewed the February 2024 Treasurer's and Monthly Budget Reports. Ms. Lindner asked if there were any questions about the warrants. Having none, Mr. Hornstein moved, seconded by Ms. Shapiro to approve the warrants. Ayes: All; Nays: None; Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

- 5. Director's Report:** Mrs. Dallas reported that the Senate and Assembly have proposed \$2.5 million in addition to the increase proposed by the Governor for operating aid. Both houses also have proposed significant increases to the State Aid for Library Construction Program, far above what the Governor has proposed (Senate: \$54 million; Assembly: \$69 million). Both houses support the Governor's proposal for \$3 million to continue the NOVELny program.

Mrs. Dallas was part of a New York delegation in DC. While there she visited with the staff of Senator Schumer and Representatives Stefanik, Jeffries, and Malliotakis and asked them to support at least \$232 million for Library Services and Technology Act and \$50 million for Innovative Approaches to Literacy. Mrs. Dallas also reported that she was told Congresswoman Stefanik would sign the appropriations letters when they are circulated.

Paperwork for the final 10% (~ \$3,813) of the SALS Library Construction program has been submitted. These funds updated our libraries with Meraki routers.

Colleen Smith and Pamela DelSignore worked with the member libraries' and SALS' 2023 annual reports. All reports have been submitted.

Book banning attempts are at record highs. ALA report found the number of challenged titles increased by 65% in 2023. 4,240 unique titles were targeted in schools and libraries across the country.

MVLS/SALS/JA Council received written notification that the Schenectady County Public Library is withdrawing from the two-system shared integrated library system. A transition team is being formed consisting of representatives from MVLS/SALS and Schenectady County Public Library staff. On Wednesday, March 20, there is a SALS member library director's council meeting to begin answering questions.

- A. *Joint Automation Report:* Included in Director's Report (see attached).
- B. *Other:* Jack Scott presented a review of the 2024 SALS Satisfaction Survey Results.
- C. *Other:* Jack Scott presented a review of our system services presented to the Legislators on Advocacy Day 2024.

6. Committee Reports:

- A. *Audit & Finance (J. Lindner, chair):* None
- B. *Building (C. Connell, chair):* Ms. Connell will bring recommendations for paving the SALS parking lot. SALS construction grant applications will be available for approval at the next meeting.
- C. *Bylaws Committee (J. Hornstein, chair):* None
- D. *Central Library Aid and Services (M. Shapiro, chair):* None
- E. *County Aid Coordinators (Vineyard, Connell, Goodman, Cowin):* None
- F. *Library Services (C. Kuhr, chair):* None
- G. *Personnel (J. Lindner, chair):* None

H. Trustee Nominating: (J. Hornstein, chair): Tom Shaginaw is a candidate to represent Saratoga County but still searching for Hamilton County.

7. Unfinished Business:

A. SALS Parking Lot

8. New Business:

A. *Approve Sara Dallas to attend Library Journal's Director's Summit, November 7 – 8, 2024 in Columbia, South Carolina: Ms. Shapiro moved, seconded by Ms. Beck to approve Sara Dallas to attend Library Journal's Director's Summit. Ayes: All; Nays: None; Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

B. Joint Automation Update: Ms. Cowin moved, seconded by Mr. Hornstein to approve in principle, permission for Sara to send acknowledgement of the Schenectady Public Library leaving the Joint Automation project and notice of the development of a transitional team. Ayes: All; Nays: None; Abstentions: None. Motion carried

C. *Review and Approve 2023 SALS Annual Report: Ms. Beck moved, seconded by Ms. Kuhr to approve the 2023 SALS Annual Report for submittal. Ayes: All; Nays: None; Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

9. Director's Council Report: None.

10. Announcements:

Next SALS Board Meeting: **April 16, 2024**, at 1:00 p.m. at SALS Service Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela DeSignore

* Items so marked are action items