

Meeting Minutes of the Peru Free Library Board of Trustees
March 23rd, 2022
Videoconference Meeting

Attendees: Patrick Andrews, Terri Cioppa, Rocky Divoll, Sandy Divoll, Diane Haight, Marque Moffett, Becky Pace, Sara Richman.

Absent: Tracy Orkin

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President Marque. The agenda was approved with a motion by Pat and seconded by Rocky. The minutes of the February meeting were approved with a motion by Sandy and seconded by Sara.

Director's Report—Becky thanked the Board for the cards and gifts that were given to the Library volunteers. The Library has received the final 10% of the Library Service Aid for 2021. The Amazon Smile contributions that have been received total \$24.48. Becky has applied for and received a grant from Stewarts for \$650 for the Children's Art Programs. A patron has donated 40 paperback books of British Classics. A donation button has been added to the Library Website for patrons to make a contribution with Pay Pal or a credit or debit card. There will be a link from the Library's FaceBook page to the website about the donation button that is available. Library Giving Day is April 6th so this would give patrons an access for donations. The current art exhibit of photographs of different sites throughout Europe were taken by a Library patron. All the photographs were taken with a 35 millimeter camera so there is also a display of 35 millimeter cameras used by the patron. Information about awarding the Construction Grant from the New York State Library system should be received in May.

President's Report—Marque congratulated Becky on the anniversary of her 19 years as the Peru Librarian. The date of her anniversary is March 24th. Marque has given Becky her annual evaluation done by the Board. An Executive Session will be held at the April Board meeting to revise the evaluation format.

Treasurer's Report—The balances in the accounts are checking—\$8313.84, savings--\$970.32 and money market--\$86,476.57. The Budget vs. Actuals Report has been received by Board members from Shelley.

Building/Maintenance Report—Rocky suggests that the parking area in front of the Library be redone for the safety of our patrons. He will talk to Mel, the Library liaison from the Town, to ask if the Town of Peru could assist with the repairs needed.

Subcommittee Status Reports—

Budget Committee—No report.

Long Range Committee—Marque has looked at the application for a grant from the Adirondack Foundation that could fund our community survey. The deadline for the application will be in February 2023.

Policy Committee—The committee will be meeting to review all the Library Policies including those related to the COVID pandemic.

Fundraising Committee—No report.

Old Business—No report.

New Business—Becky has sent the State Report to the Board members for review. Sara asked that her email address be corrected. A motion was made by Pat and seconded by Rocky to approve the State Report as it was submitted to CEFLS. The motion was approved. The terms for two Board members ended in 2021 and now have to be renewed. Sara Richman agreed to continue as a Board member and her term will now end in 2026. Rocky Divoll agreed to continue as a Board member and his term will now end in 2026.

Library Moment—As indicated in the Director's Evaluation, the Board would like to be informed about the operations of the Library, and Becky will be providing that type of information.

Requests for researching all types of information are brought to the Librarian by patrons and others who may not have access to any sources. One phone call from a student at the University of Chicago who was writing a paper on the indigenous people of the country of Peru was asking about the dialect of this group. After doing some research and not finding the information requested, Becky suggested he call the New York Public Library to seek more assistance. For the local area the Library has cemetery records, other local records and the books from Lincoln Sunderland about Peru. These are included in a section of the Library about the history of Peru.

During the pandemic many new patrons were given access to borrowing books through the pickup program of the Library. Thus the Librarians had never met them, and the patrons had never visited inside the Library. This week a mother and her 2 children came into the lobby area and the 6 year old boy said "I like it in here" about actually coming into the building.

The dates for the next two meetings are April 20th and May 18th. According to the current state requirement for public meetings, the Board will have to meet in person beginning in April. The meeting can also be offered virtually, but any members not present will not be counted for a quorum on a vote. Five members would have to be physically present for a vote on any motion. Becky suggested that since the Library itself now closes at 6:00 pm, the time of the Board meeting could be changed to 6:30 pm. No decision was made at this time.

A suggestion to meet outdoors rather than in the building was discussed, but the issue of biting insects raised questions about the desirability of this idea.

A motion by Rocky and seconded by Pat was made at 8:15 pm to adjourn the meeting.