

Meeting Minutes of the Peru Free Library Board of Trustees

March 12, 2025

Attendees: Patrick Andrews, Stacey Bousquet, Rocky Divoll, Theresa Guynup, Diane Haight, Marque Moffett, Kris Minster, Parker O'Mara, Sara Richman, Melissa Whyman.

The meeting was called to order by President Parker at 7:00 pm. The agenda was approved with a motion by Pat and seconded by Sara. The minutes of the February meeting were approved with a motion by Marque and seconded by Theresa.

Director's Report—Stacey provided statistics for February for number of patrons, volunteer hours, Story Hour attendees, book club group at the Library, speech therapy hours and tutoring hours. She also provided information about the number of attendees at the NeuroART and the Hamilsun presentations. During the February break four events were offered with 21 students participating. There were 23 participants in the Library scavenger hunt with the two winners receiving gift certificates for Stewarts' ice cream.

On February 6th Stacey participated in an AI ethics theory webinar. Board member Pat Andrews put up a new American flag on the pole in front of the Library. Stacey sent thank you notes to 37 people who donated \$2927 to the Library in memory of Geoff Spear.

Stacey had prepared the Annual Report and sent it to CEFLS for their approval. The report has now been sent to the NYS Library System for their approval. CEFLS and the ADK Diaper Bank are providing free children's diapers through many of the libraries in the system. Stacey has provided this information to our community through Facebook and the Library newsletter.

The previous Art Exhibit by Sherry Reynolds earned the Library \$590. The current Art Exhibit of paintings, beading including jewelry, bags and stained glass by Michelle Whitford will be available until March 28th. In April there will be an Art Exhibit by students in the Advanced Placement Art class from Peru High School along with a reception.

Upcoming programs at the library include a women's self-defense workshop on March 14th and a session on Estate Planning through the Community Learning Series on March 19th. Stacey will attend a Career Day for grades 3-12 at Peru Central School on March 28th. Also Stacey will attend a Summer Reading workshop on April 1st at CEFLS.

President's Report—Parker reminded the board members about the requirement for 2 hours of continuing education for trustees from different sites online and live seminars. Also each member must complete the sexual harassment requirement with an online class.

Treasurer's Report—The balances for the accounts are checking--\$10,484.00, money market--\$55,336.06 and CD--\$25,782.68. The total for all accounts is \$91,602.74.

The Budget vs. Actual Report was received from the accountant, H & R Block, with many errors recorded. Stacey will be meeting with her next week to review this report as it was submitted and clarify errors. Since every bill that Stacey and Sara send electronically to the accountant's , office indicates the line item to which it should be charged, it is difficult to understand how the mistakes are made. Hopefully there will be improvement in the report for next month.

Parker explained to the new board members the recent history of the accountants who have worked for the Library. There was a discussion about the roles of an accountant versus a bookkeeper and which is necessary for our Library.

Sara also told us that there has not been an update about a decision from the IRS about our 990EZ tax penalty.

Building/Maintenance Report—Rocky provided supplies for painting the Tween Room to Stacey.

Old Business—No report.

New Business—The annual report from the Library for the NYS Library System, as noted above, was completed with a few corrections from CEFLS and sent to the state office. A motion was made by Marque and seconded by Pat to approve the report. The motion was passed.

Library Moment-- This past Sunday Stacey and her husband, Jim, painted the entire area of the Tween Room. When our meeting was over, the Board members toured the Tween Room to admire the carpet, beanbags, painted walls and poster designed by Olivia Bousquet.

The dates for the next two Board meetings are April 9th and May 14th. The Board does not meet in June and July.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm with a motion by Pat and seconded by Theresa.