

**Almond Twentieth Century Club Library
Board Meeting Minutes – November 30 , 2023**

In attendance: Mary Jo Morrison - Library Board Vice President, Valerie Ewald – Library Board Secretary, Eric Ewald - Library Board Financial Officer, Linda Staiger - Library Board Trustee, Connor Dirlam - Director of Internal Operations, Bec Cronk - Director of Programming & Outreach

Not present: Elva Owlett - Library Board President

Meeting called to order at 6:48 p.m. - It should be noted that our meeting was moved to Alfred-Almond Central School to accommodate the public for the commentary section of this meeting.

October meeting minutes were approved - Eric motioned, Linda seconded

Mary Jo announced that the order of business would be changed so that New Business/Public Commentary could be heard first.

Public commentary regarding the receipt of a letter requesting a hearing for reconsideration of Library materials was heard. There were 56 members of the public that signed in (there were a few more that came in late) and 21 who provided commentary. No decisions were made by the Board on this topic at this meeting.

After the commentary, a 10 minute recess was granted.

Director reports - see attached documents

Connor: see attached report

- The railing on the front steps has popped up. Eric suggested that one of the staff try stepping on it to see if it will push back into place, as this is not unusual. If this does not work, we will investigate further repair.

Connor's report was accepted - Eric motioned, Valerie seconded

Bec:

- Bec secured a mini-grant from STLS for a project called "Creative Space", which is an endeavor to get kids away from screens. It will be used to provide craft supplies and other items such as an Etch-A-Sketch and Lite Brite.
- The bike rack has arrived at the post office. Help is needed to get it to the library. Eric will talk to his father-in-law and see if they can help with this. Once all parts are at the library, it will need to be assembled and installed. Eric will help with assembly but handyman should be contacted regarding installation.

- The library will be closed December 23 & 26 for the Christmas holiday and December 30 for New Years. These will be paid holidays for the staff.
- Salt is needed for the front steps. Eric suggested that water softener crystals from either Lowes or Walmart could be used as a larger amount can be purchased for a better price.

Bec's report accepted - Ericl motioned, Linda seconded - passed

Financial Reports - see attached report

- There is \$17,500 left in this fiscal year's budget.
- The first installment of school taxes has been received (\$102,993.97)
- The Election Day fundraiser did well (\$494 pies, \$741 basket auction). We also received \$100 donation from Pat McEvoy and rental fees of \$35 from Karen Porter.
- We can ask for up to \$121,966 for the next tax levy. Members were encouraged to consider what we should ask for so we can decide at next meeting and complete filing. Eric would like to not ask for an increase, but we have been encouraged in the past to ask for something each year, even if only a small amount, to keep up with inflation.

Financial report accepted - Linda motioned, Valerie seconded - passed.

Friends of the Library notes:

- Thank you notes have been sent out for the Election Day event.
- It was motioned that an Amazon gift card for \$50 be purchased and presented to Mary Fairchild to thank her for her hard work on the basket auction. Valerie motioned, Linda seconded - passed.

Old Business:

- Eric asked if we had heard anything more regarding having a quilt made for next Election Day. Bec will follow up after the holidays.
- Linda is looking for a simpler show for the next Murder Mystery event. Will discuss at next meeting. Connor suggested that something along the lines of Murder on the Orient Express could be fun.

Additional New Business:

- Eric suggested that we get quotes from local cleaning services to see if we can afford to have someone come in once or twice a month and do a "deep clean" of the library.

Next meeting will be held December 28 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 9:04 pm - Linda motioned, Eric seconded

Almond Library October Director of
Internal Operation's Report
Thursday, November 30, 2023

Stats	September 2023	October 2023	Monthly Change	October 2022	Annual Change
Door Count	291	364	25%	178	104%
Computer Use	88	52	-41%	19	174%
Program Attendance	12	16	33%	0	1200%
Circulation	351	433	23%	344	26%
Registrations	9	3	-67%	0	300%
Items Added	54	15	-72%	34	-56%
Holds Filled	153	123	-20%	159	-23%
Holds Received	130	100	-23%	159	-37%
Monthly Website Visits	MIA		#VALUE!	45	-100%
Digital Stat's OverDrive (ebooks, audiobook, video checkouts, magazines)	88	87	-1%	105	-17%

One of my primary projects I've been working on the most during October was weeding and relabeling the YA section. It's already looking much better and I've been able to discard plenty of items that were never (or nearly never) checked out for in the past 10 years. When I wasn't working on that, organizing book keeping documents, or helping patrons; I was researching different types/genres, themes, and topics of books we might consider in our future purchases. One of the next gaps I hope to start filling of our collection will be on disabilities and mental health problems. As a side note, I've noticed more young families coming in and hanging out or just looking around to see what we have.

Update from the Director of Programming and Outreach

Bec-November 2023

Update on Programming:

- Cover to Cover will be Wednesday, December 20th @ 6:00 PM: A Man Called Ove
- This month our display was focused on books about or authored by Native Americans
- December will be the winter holidays
- December 16th-Cookies Exchange!
- Holiday Crafts/Grab and Go Crafts
- Gingerbread house contest
- Passive program: Candy guess
- Planning for next year

Update on Grant:

- Rewarded \$650 for a project called "Creative Space" that will support kids being creative without a screen
- Still waiting on check

Other:

- Light has been fixed
- The bike rack has arrived, part still needs to be picked up at the PO
- Christmas Hours: Closed December 23/26

November**Bookkeepers report**

Income Check #41181 STLS , LLSA Amount \$1434.00

Report date 11/21/23

Check #	Date	Bills paid	Accounting notes	Dollar amount
5190	11/2/23	petty cash replen		\$18.00
5191	11/17/23	Ingram	Circulation	\$101.80
5196	11/17/23	utica insurance		\$23.00
5193	11/17/23	Handyman	building mainten	\$180.32
5194	11/17/23	servisoft	misc water bottle	\$13.00
5195	11/17/23	community bank	credit card	\$120.30
		supplies	\$2.67	
		programs	\$21.77	
		supplies	\$16.50	
		circ	\$15.34	
		circ	\$9.00	
		programs	55.02	
5192	Void			
			Total	\$456.42
Auto Pay		NYSEG		\$104.69
		National Fuel		\$66.66
		Frontier Phone		\$78.68
		Bookkeeping		\$430.00
			Total	\$680.03
			Total bills Paid	\$1,136.45

Public Commentary Sign-In Sheet - November 30, 2023

Name & Community of Residence	Are you an Alfred-Almond School District Resident?	Do you wish to speak at this meeting?
✓ Carl Leathersich Almond	yes	yes
✓ Jan Leathersich Almond	yes	yes
Louise Schwartz Hornell	No	Yes
Dan Hegarty	Yes	No
Eba Klindt	No	No
Denise Chilson Hornell	No	No
Hunter Childs	No	No
Ian Pullbrick-Miller, Hornell	No	No
Faith Stewart	No	No
Tom Donahue	No	No
✓ BRIAN HUNNETT	YES	YES
JOURNAL HUNT	No	no
✓ Lee Barry	yes	yes
✓ Dr. Brian M. Saltsman (Almond)	Yes	Yes
✓ Emily Fawley	yes	Maybe
✓ Megan Fawley	yes	Maybe

Public Commentary Sign-In Sheet - November 30, 2023

Name & Community of Residence	Are you an Alfred-Almond School District Resident?	Do you wish to speak at this meeting?
Keturah Cappadonia - Wellsville	No	No
Mieah Rust - Ansonia	No	No
Hara Patterson	Yes	No
Laurie Graziano Almond	Yes	No
Sandy Dennison	Almond	YES
Helen Dennison	Greenwood	No
Joey Lawrence	Almond	Yes
✓ Beth Symes Latini	Almond	Yes
Jeffrey Symes Latini	Almond	yes
Kim MacGrea	Alfred	yes
✓ Valerie Du Mond - Almond	yes	yes
✓ Scott Du Mond	Almond	YES
✓ WILLIAM SCHWITZ	ALMOND	YES
Erin Tuke & 3 daughters	New Philadelphia PA	NO
✓ John D'Angel Kerry Kautzman	Almond	YES
✓ Rachel Treanni	Almond	yes

Public Commentary Sign-In Sheet - November 30, 2023

Name & Community of Residence	Are you an Alfred-Almond School District Resident?	Do you wish to speak at this meeting?
Jackie Wilson	yes	nah
Danielle Morris-Pearce	yes	no
Jill Menn-Pierce	yes	no
DEB PIERCE	yes	no
✓ Harry Wright	yes	yes
Isabel Baedean	yes	no
Lacey Teed	yes	no
Michelle Tidy	PARADISE ALFRED	NO
Jayne Hildreth Alfred	yes	No
✓ Susan Steere	yes	Maybe
✓ Kier Dirham	yes	maybe
Beth Johnson	no	no
✓ Mechele Romanovich	yes	yes
✓ Amber DiGerlando	yes	yes
✓ Nicole DiGerlando	yes	yes
VERONICA MENDLER	No	No

