

Town of Esopus Library
May Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday May 27, 2020

Agenda

Call to order	Susan Leiching
Approval of April Board Meeting Minutes	
Public Comment	Public
Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee	Jill Abrahamsen
Director's Report	Brooke Dittmar
Friends' Report	Susan Leiching

Committees

1. Buildings, Grounds and Sign, Jim Fitzmorris and Don Carragher
2. Governance and Personnel, Susan Leiching
3. Research and Development, Anne O'Neill
4. Trustee Training Committee, Gilbert Ramos
5. Sustainability Committee, Rhea Paniesin

Adjournment

Resolutions:

2020-18 – Payment of April Claims

2020-19 – Affirmative Action Policy Update

2020-20 – Personnel Actions - T. Bruck

2020-21 – Compensation to Library Employees during COVID19 Pandemic Update

TOWN OF ESOPUS LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES April 22, 2020

Board Members Present: Susan Leiching, Jill Abrahamsen, Don Carragher, Anne O'Neill, Bob Santiago, Gilbert Ramos, Jim Fitzmorris and Rhea Paniesin

Board Members Excused: John Miller

Board Members Absent:

Staff Present: Brooke Dittmar and Mary Garraty

I. CALL TO ORDER -

The Board meeting of the Town of Esopus Library Board of Trustees was called to order by President Susan Leiching at 6:03 pm. This meeting was held via online application Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Written minutes for the February Board meeting held on February 26, 2020 were submitted and open for review.

- A motion to accept the minutes of the February Board meeting held on February 26, 2020 was made by Don Carragher and seconded by Jim Fitzmorris.
AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
Board Members Excused: John Miller
Board Members Absent:

III. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE - Jill Abrahamsen

Written report was submitted. Jill Abrahamsen reviewed the written report.

- **Resolution #13 of 2020 (Payment of February Claims):** The Board of Trustees of the Town of Esopus Library accepts and approves the payment of claims from February 1, 2020 to February 29, 2020 for items in the amount of \$9,177.80. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Don Carragher and seconded by Anne O'Neill.
AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
Board Members Excused: John Miller
Board Members Absent:

- **Resolution #14 of 2020 (Payment of March Claims):** The Board of Trustees of the Town of Esopus Library accepts and approves the payment of claims from March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 for items in the amount of \$12,344.88. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Don Carragher and seconded by Anne O'Neill.
 AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
 Board Members Excused: John Mller
 Board Members Absent:

V. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Brooke Dittmar, Director

Written report submitted. The Library has hired a new Library Clerk. His name is Timothy Bruck. The Library's Account Clerk, Margaret Gentile, resigned. The Library has requested their Accountant's office (Brian and Laura Pickard) to take on additional duties. They are doing most of the online Quick books entries. Managing the Library during COVID-19 Pandemic has been a challenge. The team has transitioned to working at home well.

VI. FRIENDS' REPORT - Susan Leiching.

Susan reported that the Friends group was unable to hold the book sale scheduled for April 17th through 19th due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Susan also shared some sad news. The secretary of Friends, Arlene Reynolds, is in Hospice care.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Buildings and Grounds and Signs**–Jim Fitzsimmons
 Written report submitted by Brooke Dittmar regarding Buildings and Grounds. A meeting was not held in March. The April meeting was held via Zoom teleconference. Brooke hired our lawn mowing person to do the spring cleanup outside. Jim mentioned that he contacted Frank Banks in early March regarding the work for the digital sign. Frank Banks informed Jim that he was not interested in doing that job for the sign excavation work. Jennifer gave Jim contact information on Jaffey Electric. Jim will contact Jaffey Electric. Martino Electric is currently the only bid we have. We cannot do this project until we have more bids.
- **Governance and Personnel** – Susan Leiching
 Written report submitted for March and April. Susan reviewed the meeting minutes. The committee met via zoom in April. Two resolutions were generated.
 - **Resolution #12 of 2020 (Personnel Actions - Timothy Bruck and Margaret Gentile)** The Board of Trustees of the Town of Esopus

Library accepts and approves the hiring of Timothy Bruck and the resignation of Margaret Flanigan-Gentile. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Don Carragher and seconded by Anne O'Neill.
AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
Board Members Excused: John Miller
Board Members Absent:

- **Resolution #15 of 2020 (Compensation to Library Employees during COVID-19 Pandemic):** The Board of Trustees of the Town of Esopus Library agree that each employee that does not currently receive sick time benefits will be compensated for their normal weekly pay if they should become ill with COVID-19, are required to quarantine because of contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19, or if they need to take care of a close family member that becomes sick with COVID-19. Additionally, if the library should be required to close due to COVID-19, all staff will work from home and be compensated for their regular work hours and pay. These benefits are in effect starting March 16, 2020, until May 15, 2020, at which time the need for these benefits will be reviewed for possible extension, as the circumstances require. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Don Carragher and seconded by Bob Santiago.
AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
Board Members Excused: John Miller
Board Members Absent:
- **Resolution #16 of 2020 (Postponement of Annual Trustee Election and Budget Vote):** The Board of Trustees of the Town of Esopus Library accepts the postponement of the Annual Trustee and Budget vote, and will reschedule it as soon as circumstances allow. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Don Carragher and seconded by Anne O'Neill.
AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
Board Members Excused: John Miller
Board Members Absent:
- **Resolution #17 of 2020 (Annual Report to NY State Library):** The Board of Trustees of the Town of Esopus Library has reviewed and accepted the 2019 Annual Report to the State Library. A motion to accept the resolution was made by Anne O'Neill and seconded by Rhea Paniesin.
AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0
Board Members Excused: John Miller
Board Members Absent:

- **Research and Development** – Anne O'Neill
Written report submitted for March and April. The Bank of Green County donated \$500 toward the sign. Thanks goes to Gilbert for pursuing this. The radio play is still going forward to be held on July 31st. Because of COVID-19, however, it is unknown if it will need to be postponed. Jennifer, Brooke and Jim met with Barbara Meltzer a few days before the library closed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Jim has suggested a specific play to do.
- **Sustainability Committee** – Rhea Paniesin
Written report submitted for March. The Committee did not meet in April. It was noted that air pollution has gone down due to less driving from everyone staying home.
- **Trustee Training Committee** – Gilbert Ramos
Written report submitted for March. The Trustee Training committee did not meet in April.

VIII. Training Session – Gilbert Ramos

There was no training session at the April Board meeting. We're planning to wait until we meet again at the Library.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, Bob Santiago made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Don Carragher. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

AYES: 8; NAYS: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 0

Board Members Excused: John Miller

Board Members Absent:

Prepared by Mary Garraty, Secretary to the Town of Esopus Library Board of Trustees

Town of Esopus Library
Buildings and Grounds and Sign Committee
May 11, 2020 4pm. Zoom Mtg Format.

Attendance: Brooke, Ann, Jill, Donald.
Absent: Bob, Jim, John.

Brooke spoke about MHLS topics and concerns, some of us had watched an online meeting that addressed library issues and covid concerns and reactions. Library Staff were cautioned to restrict expenses.

Brooke had spoken with Gilbert who had contacted Jeffers Electric for an estimate for sign installation electrical work. We are on hold for the new sign now but there is dedicated money for it. Additional purchases and site improvements are not funded and all is on hold.

Some holes in the lawn have (re)appeared, Brooke described one depression near the youth garden. The lawn company may be asked to fill it. Another is to the right of the entrance and may be a result of erosion from street runoff. The town filled it last summer, at the request of our Community Garden manager, Pat Frank, but it reappeared shortly after. Brooke has attempted 'ditching' around it but will need more work. Don suggested standing in the rain to observe how the water flows to determine the cause.

Don had examined the catchment basin preceding the water directed into the duck pond. It is very silted up and thick with weeds and needs to be cleared. Material from it could be sifted and used to fill the depressions in the lawn.

One last tree branch remains to be removed from the new sign site, Don will cut it with a recently bought pole saw.

Several issues were discussed of how libraries might return to full service and what permanent changes might remain. Brooke and Jill discussed finance sources and options. Ann raised the issue of state/county funding and the schedule of monies received. With so much unknown it is not possible to plan or predict. Don offered that this pandemic has proved the expansive value of public libraries for online services for the homebound, and as the summer starts, group recreation may still be restricted, freeing funds for the library, especially at the Town level.

Meeting adjourned around 5ish. "Does anybody really know what time it is?" via, Chicago.

Submitted,
Donald Carragher

**Town of Esopus Library
Finance Committee**

May 14, 2020
(2nd Thursday at 4:30pm)

Attendance: Jill Abrahamsen, Brooke Dittmar, Rhea Paniesin and Susan Leiching.

The April Finance Committee meeting was held via Zoom.

The payment of claims for the month of March was reviewed and discussed by the Finance Committee and a resolution for approval will be presented to the Board at the May Board meeting on May 27th.

Discussion was had regarding adjusting the 2020 budget due to changes in expenditures and income for the library. Due to anticipated changes in the way the library will operate once a decision has been made to reopen, one library clerk position will be eliminated and a resolution to that effect will be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting. Brooke will continue to formulate the budget for 2021.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will meet on June 11th at 4:30pm.

Submitted by Jill Abrahamsen

**Town of Esopus Library
Governance and Personnel Committee**

**May 12, 2020
(2nd Tuesday, @ 5pm)**

Attendance: Susan Leiching, Brooke Dittmar, Rhea Paniesin, John Miller

Absent: Don Carragher

The Committee met via Zoom. We reviewed the Affirmative Action Policy which will be presented at the May Board meeting will little change.

Susan also reminded members of the census and to view the YouTube presentation on the MHLS Trustee briefing on the COVID 19. Brooke will send link to the Board members.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Leiching

Next meeting is June 9th, 2020

**Town Of Esopus Library
Research and Development Committee
May 13, 2020**

Attendees: Jennifer Russell, Gilbert Ramos, Jill Abrahamsen and James Fitzmorris.
Absent: Anne O'Neill and Bob Santiago

The Committee discussed pursuing a Construction Aid Grant for the purchase of an electronic digital sign. A couple of electrical contractors have been contacted to submit estimates for the work to be done. Jennifer has contacted Jaffer electric but needs to provide electrical specs. Gilbert and Jim met with James Carey of Arace electronics and he will provide an estimate of work. Jennifer shared an idea in regards to the fall book sale, whereby all the books could be displayed in the community room and limit the flow of people coming in. The CDC guidelines would have to be adhered to, i.e. social distancing, masks and possibly gloves. The Friends of the Library would have to be consulted and the event planned with their input and approval.

The planned Radio show is scheduled for July 31st. Jennifer will attempt to schedule a meeting with Barbara so the planning and production can get back on track. Contact must be made with Warren McCutchen of Radio Kingston. Jim will do this.

Submitted by Gilbert Ramos

**Sign Committee Minutes
May 11, 2020**

Present: Brooke Dittmar, Anne O'Neill, Don Carragher

Absent: Jim Fitzmorris, Bob Santiago

On May 11, Gilbert arranged a meeting with Jim from Arace Electric. Jim Fitzmorris joined them on the Library grounds. The electrician assessed the library's need for excavation and placement of electrical connection as part of our Sign Project. Within two weeks of May 11, Jim from Arace Electric intends to provide Gilbert with a written estimate for the needed work.

Jennifer Russell has contacted Jaffer Electric recently and is awaiting response regarding a Sign-related visit. Gilbert is planning to visit J&J Sass Electrical in Port Ewen to speak with them about visiting the library and assessing our project needs.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Fitzmorris

Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2020

Present: Gilbert Ramos, Jennifer Russell, Jim Fitzmorris, and Rhea Paniesin

Compared the beautiful slides Jennifer put together to slides from other libraries. We think ours are prettier but not as engineer-pleasing. This likely reflects differences in the various libraries' constituencies. Jen is going to run the slides by Brooke and MHLS before she posts them.

Assignment to committee members and topic of discussion to be brought up in Sustainability Committee's time slot: now that Green Business Partnership Certification is about done, what should the Sustainability Committee do?

Respectfully submitted by Rhea Paniesin

Town Of Esopus Library
Trustee Training Committee

May 8, 2020

The Trustee Training Committee did not meet. Trustee Training will not be held at the May Board Meeting on May 27, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Gilbert Ramos, Chairperson

Next meeting is June 12, 2020

Sustainability Committee Meeting Transcript 5/13/20 FIRST DRAFT
5:30 pm

Rhea: I see an icon that says I am being recorded.

Jennifer: Okay, good. Welcome to the Sustainability meeting. Where we left off was everybody had given me data for these slides. Gilbert had sent me some very nicely done slides with really cool pictures and formatting, but it was in PowerPoint, and the website, the Sustainability website, requires it to be in Google Slides. So I uploaded the PowerPoint presentation to the Google Slides, and the formatting remained okay. And I was like, all right, but then I went with that, yeah, then it would look. I just did everything like that. And I looked at some other library's presentations and some of them were very, very, very, simple. And some of them didn't have any graphs of the data that - that they got from all that inputting of data. And so I was wondering if you would mind if I shared my screen and we could look at some, the presentation that I did, and also the other libraries to see what we think.

Don: Sure.

Rhea: Sounds good.

Jennifer: Okay. Let's see.

Don: And I have the Google Chromebook that I'm using. Actually translated your slideshow into a PDF file.

Jennifer: Oh good!

Don: Which was really neat to, you know, just go back and forth on.

Jennifer: So this one is Canastota Public Library. They don't, if you look to the left of the screen, they don't use any, hardly any, pictures at all. Very wordy.

Don: I like yours with more pictures and bubbles.

Jennifer: Uh, Jim's here. Let him. Lots of this sort of thing, and really. Where's Jim.

Jim: I'm here.

Jennifer: I can hear you, Jim! There you are.

Jim: Here comes "start video".

Jennifer: There you are.

Rhea: Good to see you.

Jim: You also. All of you. Very good.

Jennifer: So, we started recording the meeting, and I'm sharing my screen, and we're looking at some of the other libraries presentations just to get a little comparison. This is Canastota Library. They have very few pictures, lots of words, and no graphs. Haverstraw... I looked at Haverstraw too. I thought it was dull, which is amazing, because Haverstraw is a fairly large library.

Don: Looks huge, yeah.

Jennifer: So they put in some narratives of that sort of data, but it's still the same information that, that we have. For example, we have solar panels. So do we. Our thermostats are programmed. So are ours. You know, all this stuff, same basic information. We default our color paper printers to you know...

Don: I saw that the two-sided printing was the default.

Jennifer: Yeah, we do that too. They have the recycling bins, so have we. We've done the recycling with the paper. We've eliminated disposable dishes. Well, that's something that, that we have, the dishes but we also do disposable. Posting signs we've got that. Now this one, the staff survey I didn't do. I asked them how do you get the graphs to put into a slide presentation, and they said, "You do a screenshot."

Don: What?!

Jennifer: Well, that's lame.

Don: It's the original cut and paste.

Jennifer: Yeah, like, really? But they have 45 staff people. We've got nine. I don't know if it's necessary.

Don: Oh, look at this. They have a green, greenhouse gas emissions.

Jennifer: Yeah, that would come from the website, once all the data that we put in it comes in. But I've looked at it generally, and it doesn't look all that interesting, quite frankly.

Don: This is a very data-driven presentation. It's not. I'm not finding it is inviting as ours to, you know, to learn about the library. And this looks like an engineer's term project.

Jennifer: Yeah, and other than their own exact data, they're pretty much doing exactly what we do. They're not doing anything out of the ordinary.

Jim: Who did, who is the intended audience for these? Other libraries? Because cuz there's a lot of verbiage on these slides and it's small, kind of smallish print. So it's great for a walk, you know, a policy walk or whatever, but I like, I like pictures.

Jennifer: Yeah, I mean....

Jim: I like picture books.

Jennifer: It's made for the Green Business Partnership, who is sponsoring this.

Jim: Alright, so it's that audience. So I understand why they would put the verbiage on there.

Jennifer: Saratoga is a much larger library than ours is, and do you want to, do you want to get any more or should we just go to ours and take a look at ours?

Rhea: Let me take a quick look at Saratoga. Scroll down that's the kind of quick look I want.

Jennifer: They took pictures of their recycling bins. They're packaging...

Jim: If you don't mind, just click on a couple of them. You know like, what.. Yeah, all those recycling bins or something, yeah, yeah, let's see that. It really tells the story right there, you know? Yep. See I'm more impressed by that because it, like, ah-ha, I see something there. I can already see on the side 10, 11, 12 and 13 are gonna just knock it out of the park.

Rhea: What's slide 14?

Jennifer: I mean, they even have a picture saying, "Unsubscribing from mailing lists." I'm like, wow! That's a stretch. You want to see 13 or 14?

Rhea: 14.

Don: Well, the mailboxes are empty! I guess that's the point.

Jennifer: So this has to do with having your default printer set for 2-sided, using something like Dropbox, which we do. Interesting. Putting up signs.

Rhea: They don't seem to have any graphs. Okay. I've seen what I wanted to for this.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jim: Thanks.

Jennifer: And then...

Don: But um. Last year, seems like last year. When we were looking at the samples that they had, Green Business Partnership, those samples that they had on their site, and one of them I think, Henry Hudson... Hendrick Hudson or whatever. They weren't really all that data-driven. There was a, there was some data involved, but there's a lot of pictures too of the things in the programs and stuff like. But it still wasn't. Okay..Shelter Island. All right, yeah. That's kind of a mix there. Discarded old refrigerator. Wow. We can, we can put pictures of our garbage?

Jennifer: They have a video.

Don: Oh, look at that! That's fancy pants.

Jennifer: Signage. We do signage.

Don: I did notice on one of those first ones that we looked at, Canastota, whatever it was called. I thought I noticed that one of the screens for energy, they said that they had an on-demand water heater. And I really wonder how that was working for them because I have on-demand water heating in the house. We don't have a water tank. And the on-demand water heating, if you're looking, like, to wash your hands with warm water, you've got to run a fair amount of water to get the heater started and then the water delivered through the pipes. And it's not always the most efficient thing to do. Now in my house, we don't waste the water because we just jug the water as we're waiting for it to heat, but you can't do that at a public library. I don't know that really is as great an idea as it might seem to be because that, that usage I think is going to waste a lot of water.

Jennifer: That happens a lot, I think, with environmental ideas. In one way it's great, and then you discover later, oops, it, you know, makes more problems.

Clattering sound.

Don: It wasn't the chicken was it?

Jennifer: It was my mouse.

Jim: Don, do you to see the screen that Jen and has up right now, Energy and says T8 in the middle, T8 lights an incandescent lighting with LEDs. What is, what is that?

Don: T8?

Jim: I see incandescent lighting with LEDs. Does that mean, they're using incandescent sockets to, and I mean cuz that's what LED bulbs that we have, we put them right in the sockets that have been in this house for 35 years. Makes it sound fancy.

Don: Yeah that's weird. I don't even know what that means. Gill, have you ever heard anything like that?

Gilbert: Uh, no.

Don: I don't know what it means!

Jim: Looks like they created it. They created a meme.

Don: Oh, we can make up words.

Jim: True. True.

Jennifer: Looking at ours, comparatively speaking.

Rhea: We need to have the green logo (GBP) on this.

Jennifer: Okay.

Rhea: My internet connection is unstable, so I keep dropping out. My apologies.

Don: You're back!

Gilbert: Do we have a picture of the Repair Cafe?

Jennifer: Umm. No.

Gilbert: I noticed that on one of the other.

Jim: There's the Repair Cafe right there, Alex.

Jennifer: That's the Children's Garden. There is the solar panel. So, Jim, so I took, I think, some data that you put together and I just made this slide. So that's kind of where that came from.

Don: It looks neat.

Jim: Wonderful. Jen gets full credit for that.

Jennifer: Thank you.

Don: I thought it looked really good all-around.

Jennifer: Those are pictures I took from my phone. I was really impressed. So in this one, I think the one thing that we have, that I don't think any of the libraries have, is that we do sometimes, we send CD cases and DVD cases to that recycling center. But everything else a lot of other libraries do.

Don: Right. Now, who's, who's the man in the faucet? When you look at that picture.

Jennifer: Gilbert! You can see him. Right in there.

Don: He's in the faucet.

Jim: Right there?

Don: In the reflection in the top of the faucet.

Gilbert: Upsidedown.

Jim: Oh my god. I had no idea. It kinda looks like a beetle. Some kind of beetle. Okay.

Gilbert: Better than being in the toilet. I'm not in the toilet.

Jennifer: This is unusual. This is unique. You don't see any other libraries with something like that.

Don: I haven't seen any landscaping at all. As nearly as much as we have.

Jennifer: A lot of libraries don't have any property. They're right in the center of town. Okay. This is our employee survey. The graph isn't there, but I took out comments that actual staff had made in the survey and added that in there. Our Gardens. This next slide, this has to do with programming, and instead of using, say, the Repair Cafe, I put in something about our The Great Give Back that we did where we made bags.

Don: There's the Repair Cafe. It's the second one.

Jennifer: The second one.

Don: That Great Give Back was very craft orientated project, too.

Jennifer: It was unique. I mean Repair Cafes are in this area in the Hudson Valley all the way from Albany down are getting very common.

Gilbert: That was a good choice.

Jennifer: I dunno. That's what I did. But we could change it because we have pictures of people repairing things. Got lots of pictures of that.

Gilbert: No, that's a good choice. I like that.

Don: That's fine. That's good.

Jim: What is Project Drawdown?

Jennifer: Project Drawdown is a book, actually, and they asked a lot of organizations to do a Project Drawdown program where we talked about the ideas. I should probably put a little more explanation in there saying what it is. Because they have very specific criteria to how they think we can reduce the effects of global warming. One of them is a more vegan diet and that was why there was a vegan potluck dinner.

Don: It's a book of a hundred different projects that people can incorporate into their lives.

Jim: Like a hundred different things you can do to save the planet kind of thing.

Don: That's exactly what it is.

Jim: Great, yeah. Because that exists. Yeah, cool.

Rhea: Jen, the last time I saw this slide deck, you had started with a picture of the front of the library and ended with a picture of the rear. You didn't like the picture of the front?

Jen: I don't remember that. I don't remember that being the first one, maybe I'm wrong, and I don't know why I took that out. Maybe it was because it was too blurry? I remember the first one I had was the heron.

Rhea: Yes, at one point, but there was another intermediate version that had the front door as pictures. If the picture is no good, then it doesn't belong there. My take on all of this is that, this is a project that each library can do it however it wants to, and the libraries that are patronized by engineers and who have engineers on their board or their sustainability committee presents a lot of graphs and tables. We are a very crafty library with lots of craft programming and we have our own band and all like that. And we have a great artist on our Sustainability committee, so that's what we're doing. It's pretty. We're using great photos. I think that that's good. That's fine. We've got the information there. That's all we need. There's no reason to change it. It's not broken.

Don: It's the nature of our community and the role that the library plays in it.

Rhea: Exactly.

Don: I like it. I like it.

Jennifer: Okay. Anyone else have something they want to add?

Gilbert: It's great. It's to the point, nice pictures, people get to see and get the look of what our library's about. It's great.

Don: My comment wasn't about the presentation, but there's a slide where we show the entrance to the front foyer, and we have the recycling can against the wall. And that's it, right there. And that's fine because that is a part of our sustainability, but something for us to think about was another slide from another library showed their recycling containers. And it looks like three really weird looking toilets, because the top one was square, the top of the center one was round (the top of the hole in it), and then the top of the third one was actually like a giant slot. That almost is like... Ours a blue container for recycling, and I know from my own use, if that's a paper recycling bin. Okay, it's not for soda cans and it's not for...it could be for newspapers, but it's not for anything else. Now we do have a trash can, which hopefully, everyone can identify as a trash can, but just for the future, I wonder if we consider having the recycling tops actually more targeted for what's supposed to be put in them. And I thought that was something neat cuz I've seen in other places, where they definitely do not want your soda cans going into the garbage, or they do not want garbage going into the soda can container. They'll make the opening difficult.

Jennifer: This is an issue. And we did look at those types. Of course, they're more expensive. So we did go with these. On the one hand, since Ulster county is single-stream, you can put soda cans in with papers, supposedly that's fine. But you are right we have gone in that bin and pulled out, ah, bottles that still have a lot of liquid in them that the person didn't bother to take out which really should go into the garbage cuz it's wet.

Don: And UCRRA is fighting single-stream. They don't want to do it anymore, but it's expensive and labor-intensive. That's their complaint.

Rhea: It's all very well and good to have separate recycling bins for paper and then metal, glass and plastic, or one for each, but we don't have the room for that. Never mind the cost of it.

Jennifer: I mean, you can go even further. There is, which we won't do, but there's a company called Terracycle. There's a place in Woodstock that has them, where you can recycle all kinds of things like say plastic toothbrushes and basically you buy the box, and you put it out. When people throw their used plastic toothbrushes in it, and then you ship it off the Terracycle. But

those boxes cost upwards of \$200. You have to be really committed to recycling. Anyway, I digress.

Don: It's kinda gross too, in a COVID world.

Jim: Yeah, forget that.

Jennifer: So yeah. Brooke wants to look over this presentation before I send it off to Casey cuz Casey from Mid-Hudson Library System is our advisor, and I want him to look over and say okay. And then I think we just upload to the website and that part is done.

Don: Yay!

Rhea: Yay!

Jennifer: Then after that, I am not sure exactly what is left to do, so I want to talk to Casey about that as well, and you know, maybe we're getting to a point of getting finished. I dunno.

Jim: One thing you could do is put in the report that from approximately mid-March through mid-May we generated zero garbage, and in our effort...

Jennifer: Not true! One thing, I've gone in, you know, we still are getting bills in the mail so those are envelopes and yadda-yadda.

Jim: But that's recycling, not garbage.

Jennifer: And then even though we had signs, some people left book donations outside the library which went straight into the dumpster because they were wet and moldy.

Don: Well, that's too bad. I'll admit to you guys right now, I have three boxes of books in my garage because on the Sunday when I got back from Florida, somebody had left them in front of this library on a Sunday, and it was supposed to rain. So I threw them in the truck, and they're still there because we haven't been open since.

Rhea: Good for you!

Jennifer: Yeah, good for you! Thank you. They absolutely would have gotten ruined.

Jim: Of course.

Don: Yeah, that's interesting. I wonder if I should consider doing a drive-by when I'm in town just to see what's there quite.

Jennifer: Well, I've been in quite a bit because I'm doing bills stuff, and people are going in. So but feel free to do a drive-by if you ever want to. A lot of people are going to the library just walking around.

Don: Okay.

Rhea: What will we be doing once we get done with this Green Business Partnership?

Jennifer: That is a good question. I don't know if this committee needs to continue to meet. I think Brooke would like them to continue to meet. But the next project, I think, after the digital sign is to replace the lights with LEDs.

Don: Right. And that's something that I think this committee could be an advisory body for Buildings and Grounds. Because some of the things that we have alluded to in our presentation, that we were looking at right now, some of those points still need to be developed and then funded and then carried through. And that might be one thing that we can assist Buildings and Grounds with, with getting, you know, closer to completion. In other words, we can nag them.

Jennifer: And we could probably pull in our Research and Development committee if there is a construction aid grant for the next cycle after this one, we might go for that.

Rhea: Of course the Sustainability Committee could do something really interesting and strange and just talk about how to sustain the library in the days of COVID. Ha-ha. No laughs...oh well.

Don: Has anyone figured out how to detoxify a book?

Rhea: Burn it!

Don: Ha! Yeah, governments do that.

Jennifer: It's interesting. I'm going to be taking a webinar, actually, on Friday about reopening and the libraries are going to be tracking. Because, apparently, paper is not a good conducive for the virus to continue to live because it's water-based. Whereas plastic and metal, which are not porous, it stays. So books, for the most part, are paper except for the outside they're wrapped in plastic. So they say 72 hours. Leave them alone for 72 hours, then the virus should be dead by then. And then, you know, we could always wipe down all the covers and the DVD covers and stuff like that.

Rhea: You could strip all of those plastic covers off the books and recycle them and then have a plastic free bookshelf.

Jennifer: Well that was something that I wanted long before this whole COVID thing. When you think about all that plastic. Because it is not recyclable according to UCRRA. Even though the

company that manufactures it, who we buy it from, says it's plastic number 1 or whatever, and is recyclable, but if your recycling company doesn't recycle it, it doesn't matter, right?

Don: I don't believe that we do number 1 in Ulster County.

Jennifer: I don't remember exactly what number it was. I just used that as an example. But I called Ulster County and I'm like, we have this plastic, etc. and they said, "No." So it's a big issue, I think. Academic libraries don't bother putting plastic on any of their books, but I don't know if they get quite as much use as public libraries.

Rhea: I'm sure they do.

Don: Well the highest used would be children's books and those never have a book jacket.

Jennifer: Yeah, they do. They always have plastic.

Don: Really? Oh, I'm thinking of the board books or something. Okay.

Jennifer: Board, yeah, board books. The books the kids eat, literally.

Jim: Think of every single Doctor Seuss book, for example, that's that laminate shiny kind of thing that you could spill a cup of sulfuric acid on it.

Don: That's your go-to author, isn't it?

Jim: Yes, absolutely. Why not?

Jennifer: But it will be interesting, with say, the board books. Will libraries continue to offer board books going forward because kids eat them.

Jim: But they should make them in different flavors, then.

Jennifer: They did have that whole thing. The inks made in China! And they're bad for you and we need soy inks! And you know, there was a big to-do some years ago. And libraries were like, "Oh should we get board books anymore from China?"

Jim: Apparently yes.

Jennifer: The fervor goes down and people are like, "Give the kids something to do!"

Don: Most of the little kids I know have tablets at this point.

Jennifer: And they're eating them.

Jim: On that note...

Jennifer: Yeah, anything else? Anybody have anything you want to chat about? Are we good?

Jim: I'm good. That's it. Bravura performance on the slide deck. It's good.

Rhea: Yes, really is.

Jennifer: Good. Excellent. We'll see what Brooke says and then shoot it off to Casey.

Rhea: I have an assignment for everybody. Okay?

Jim: Fix your sound?

Rhea: Here's the assignment. Think about what you would like this committee to do next. That's the assignment.

Jim: Okay.

Don: Okay.

Rhea: It's a very easy one, I hope.

Don and Jim spoke at the same time about trimming trees.

Don: I got the pole saw for the tree. (sign?)

Jim: I've been thinking about it the last couple of days, and I don't know what the status is as far as you know moving ahead with that now under the circumstances. But because the weather's, while the weather is improving, the temperatures improving over the next week and the foliage is coming out, so if we get, if it's okay to do it right now, this I mean, in the next week, it would be a good time to do it. Because now with the warm weather, the trees are going to become heavier with the foliage.

Don: I was looking at it today, actually. The leaves are all coming out, so I'm just going to drop it.

Jim: Drop, drop the subject or drop the tree?

Don: Unintelligible

Jim: We'll talk about that. Let's be in touch about that over the next few days. See what we can do, all right? All right. I'm good. Good to see everybody. Everybody looks healthy.

Jennifer: Thanks for coming!

Jim: Thanks, Jen. See you in a couple of weeks, Jen.

Jennifer: Bye everybody!