

**Southeast Steuben County Library  
Annual Meeting of the Membership  
Laura Beer Community Room  
June 15, 2017**

**Trustees Attending:**

President: Mary Ann Thomas  
Vice President: Hazel Russell  
Secretary: Mary H. Bacalles  
Pro Bardhan  
Emily J. Marino  
Barry W. Nicholson  
Kate Paterson  
Louise Richardson  
Don Spencer

**Absent:**

Treasurer Nancy Kirby Kurjakovic  
Barbara A. McLean  
Hatesh R. Radia

**Other Attendees:** Library Director Pauline Emery, Assistant Library Director Brad Turner, Lee Mertson

**Call to Order:**

President Mary Ann Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**Welcome and Introduction of Association Members, Board Members and Director:**

Mary Ann Thomas introduced board members and the library director and welcomed Friends of the Library President Lee Mertson to the Annual Meeting. Lee Mertson was cited for her contributions as a library advocate on the Community Engagement Committee.

**Officers/Vote:**

Secretary Mary H. Bacalles read the Nominating Committee's slate of board officers up for reelection:

President: Mary Ann Thomas  
Vice President: Hazel Russell  
Treasurer Nancy Kirby Kurjakovic  
Secretary: Mary H. Bacalles

The secretary's call for nominations from the floor produced no other candidates. There were no objections to her call for an up or down vote on the entire slate. The slate of officers was reelected unanimously by the assembly.

### **Library Director's Report:**

Library Director Pauline Emery thanked trustees for their efforts in developing the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan. Thanks to the plan, "I have clear concise objectives. It really is a working document." Library accomplishments in 2016 supported lifelong learning and community engagement. The library had more than 211,000 visitors in 2016, circulated nearly 235,000 items and recorded more than 35,000 program attendances. "You do not get numbers like that if you don't have enthusiasm," she said, praising staff members. The library was awarded its Absolute Charter in 2016. Public access computing was enhanced with the library's new high speed fiber-to-fiber internet connection. The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes honored library Youth Services Specialist Erica Unterman with its Arts Partnership Award. Other benchmarks, including high meeting room use for classes and by the public, were noted.

### **Financial Report/Audit/Endowment:**

(See Southeast Steuben County Library's 2016 Endowment Overview prepared by Fischer Investment Group, Inc. and 2016 Financial Statements, prepared by EFPR Group, CPAs, PLLC)

Pauline Emery noted that 76 percent of library spending was used for the public, with the remaining 24 percent applied to administrative and business expenses. The library tax pays for only 70 percent of the library's actual expenses, with contributions from the Friends of the Library, donations, grants, fines and fees accounting for 24 percent of expenditures. Earnings from the endowment covered the remaining 6 percent. "We use the money for things that directly impact our community." The library earned high marks in its audit by EFPR Group. No material weaknesses were cited.

"The financial statements...present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Southeast Steuben County Library as of December 31, 2016, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

### **Closing Statements:**

In her closing remarks, Mary Ann Thomas said the library would not be accomplishing what we do without the director, assistant director, staff, volunteers and the Friends of the Library. "I think we have a great Board of Trustees," with diversity in its members. "We are a value to the community and a cornerstone of the community."

### **Adjournment:**

With no further business, Mary Ann Thomas adjourned the meeting at 5:29 p.m.