

John Trigg Ester Library FY2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2023

Clausen Cabin



Call to Order by President Mindy Gallagher at 4:08

Attendees: Mindy Gallagher, Syrilyn Tong, Kristin Haney, Kathy Nava, Gary Pohl, Thelma Gower, Charlie Gallagher

Annual Presentation and Report to the Membership

Mindy commenced the meeting with a “Review of What Happened in FY2023” via PowerPoint presentation. This was a very informative and concise review of the many things that have been happening at the Ester Library, and is incorporated into these minutes as an attachment.

The following corrections were noted to the “Volunteers” acknowledgements in the PowerPoint presentation: Walker, Wyatt and Owen Haney last names are to be changed to Tonnies; add Thelma Gower as a volunteer.

Voting for the FY2024 Board

After the Annual Presentation, a slate of candidates was presented for the election of the FY2024 Board of Directors. Incumbents Kathy Nava and Gary Pohl had a year remaining on their positions on the Board and were not up for re-election.

The following positions were ending and up for vote:

- President, incumbent Mindy Gallagher
- Vice-President, incumbent Kristin Haney
- Treasurer, incumbent Syrilyn Tong
- Directors, two vacant positions

The following persons were interested in running:

- Mindy Gallagher, agreed to another term as President
- Kristin Haney, agreed to another term as Vice-President
- Syrilyn Tong, agreed to another term as Treasurer
- Cat Stepheson, candidate for Director (She was not in attendance, but had previously agreed to run for election)
- Vicky Ketchum, candidate for Director (She was not in attendance, but Kathy Nava will follow up to confirm if she is elected)

Syrilyn Tong moves to vote in all of the five above candidates by acclamation and Kristin Haney seconds the motion. All members present voted to approve the slate of candidates.

Pending Grants: Presentation and Discussion with Thelma Gower

Thelma Gower, PhD, has an extensive background in banking and successful grant writing. She has volunteered to work with the Ester Library and would love to see us obtain funding for the full

completion of the new library that has been partially constructed on the library's Village Road property. She is also working with the Folk School and UAF Symphony to obtain grant funding.

Thelma indicated that there are two initial entities to contact for various reasons: Lisa Murkowski's office (up to \$2M) via online application before January 15, 2024; and the Rasmuson Foundation also via online application. Other grantors would include the Murdock Foundation. January 15, 2024 is the big deadline for getting all the language and information put together.

She indicated that the Ester Library needs to get the www.esterlibrary.org website up to date, in particular the financials. Any proposals or discussion of the new facility should consider the project as a "library" for grant purposes and should be an entity without rentals. Grant proposals should all be completed within the next six months. Interface with the Board members would continue in November and December to assemble important information and craft the proposals for Board review.

Adjourn meeting at 5:19 pm.