

# **DVAA Board Meeting**

**May 11, 2023**

Attending In-Person: Jeff Allison, Robin Dinitman, Dan Hust, Hester Greene, Ken Sable, Ariel Shanberg, Lily Smith, Heinrich Strauch, and Mary Sue Sweeney

Attending via Zoom: Leif Johansen and Rachel Gordon

Not in attendance: Marla Puccetti and Jane Roth

Meeting commenced at 6:35 p.m.

- After a welcome from Dan, Ariel introduced the new Performing Arts Manager Conor O'Brien, attending via Zoom, who expressed his enthusiasm to work with the DVAA. Ariel later noted how delighted local performing arts patrons and artists were to hear of Conor's hiring, as he is well-known in the performing arts community
- Minutes approved UNANIMOUSLY
- After a brief discussion the board agreed UNANIMOUSLY to extend all terms from June instead to December in the year they terminate, except for Jeff's term, as he intends to retire from the board on June 30, 2023. This is to align board terms with the new calendar-year fiscal system voted into existence at the prior board meeting
- Lily Smith of Callicoon was introduced to the board and UNANIMOUSLY appointed as the newest board member
- Ariel gave his report. Highlights included:
  - He spoke with Big Eddy Film Festival Director Kate Bergstrom about returning this year, which she is doing, and her plans for the Festival – in short, a “less is more” approach
  - Ariel has again been invited to serve on a NYSCA review panel
  - Wayne Bank has ceased its financial support, but administrators will be approached to resume. Jeff feels business outreach is a perfect fit for the new Communications Committee and will provide the board with a list of current sponsors/supporters
- Ariel presented the list of Sullivan County Arts & Heritage Grant applicants who were approved for funding by panelists, which the board accepted UNANIMOUSLY
- The Communications Committee will initially consist of Dan, Ariel, Leif and Lily
- Jeff noted there will be a Volunteer Recognition event honoring our volunteers on June 24, time to be determined. In 2022, 68 volunteers gave 2,389 hours of time to the DVAA (1,809 hours if you don't count board members)

Meeting ended at 8:14 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 8, 2023

*Respectfully submitted by Dan Hust.*