Ms. Schepker called to order a virtual and in-person meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Hillsdale, Bergen County, New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the newspaper of record, filed with the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Library’s website and bulletin board, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting’s Law.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM. A motion to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes was made by Mr. Berde, seconded by Ms. Atchison. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President’s Report: Ms. Schepker: The year ended well with increased donations to The Friends, a successful Foundation fundraiser and strong circulation. Election of officers for 2023 will take place this evening.

Nominating Committee: Ms. DiLorenzo, Mr. Harris and Ms. Miller presented a proposed slate of officers for 2023:

- President: Carol Schepker
- Vice President: Al Metz
- Treasurer: Barbara Wertheim
- Secretary: Liz DiLorenzo

Mr. Harris made a motion, on behalf of the committee, to elect this slate of officers, seconded by Ms. Miller. Unanimous vote of approval.

Treasurer’s Report: Ms. Wertheim: Budget vs. actuals. Donations, fines and Woodcliff Lake memberships increased. The Friends received a $20,000 donation. The Museum Pass program has begun.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to approve the bill list, seconded by Ms. Atchison. Unanimous vote of approval.

Foundation Designated Trustee: Ms. Schepker’s one year term ended. Mr. Metz nominated Ms. Schepker for a new two year term, seconded by Mr. Harris. Unanimous vote of approval.

Director’s Report:
- Mr. Franz spoke about the chair Yoga class.
- He is seeking an Art teacher to conduct a series of workshops.
- He is seeking a replacement for Mr. Gary Weir as President of The Friends.
- 2022 was an excellent year for the Library, all of the metrics increased.
Mr. Franz presented a Strategic Plan meeting schedule. The sub-committees are meeting separately with the goal of having a new Strategic Plan by the summer.

There was a discussion about the state of the roof and gutters.

Collection development is another policy that needs to be examined. Book circulation has held fairly steady over time. Media circulation of CDs and DVDs has decreased due to increased streaming services. 100 new chairs were ordered. Space allocation will have to be reconfigured.

BCCLS is offering their own managed Wi-Fi service; the Library could offer this Wi-Fi through their technology. The BCCLS Head of Technology just resigned. Mr. David Hanson, BCCLS Director, will visit the Library and Trustees’ meeting within the next few months.

Mr. Franz discussed a chart reflecting circulation rates among BCCLS libraries; Hillsdale ranks first with regard to the 1/3 mil. Mr. Metz asked for clarification about varying 1/3 mil rates.

Ms. Miller spoke about Kanopy and Over Drive national circulation rates.

Hillsdale is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year. The Library opened in 1936. Mr. Franz compiled a list of all of the Library Directors; he is the longest serving Director, 21 years, and Cindy has been working here for 32 years.

By-laws Revision: Mr. Metz circulated the latest by-laws with minor changes that the Trustees recommended as well as from Mr. Douglas Zucker. Minor editing was done with standardized capitalization. Ms. Miller made a motion to accept the by-laws as presented, seconded by Mr. Harris. Unanimous vote of approval.

The Friends/The Foundation: No report given.

New business: The Borough review of the Library’s 2023 proposed budget will be in January, TBD. A suggestion was made that sub-committee in-person meetings be held on Thursday evenings. If they are held virtually, then they can be any evening.

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on February 13, 2023. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. DiLorenzo. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary