

Board of Directors
Library Board of the Borough of Oakmont
Minutes – October 14, 2020

Present: Jeanette Eleff (non-voting), Wendy Emery, Matt Kissane, Katie Lascola, Beth Mellor, Shane Michael, Heather Pletcher, Deborah Ormay, Laurie Sliben

Chair Laurie Sliben called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

The minutes from the September 9th meeting were reviewed. Matt moved the minutes be approved as amended; Katie seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as amended.

The Board reviewed the staff reports. The Board commended Karen for her continuing education activities. It was noted there was a sharp increase in total number of programs and attendees in spite of conducting all activities virtually. The Board acknowledged Stephanie's great work on setting up the Library's website into WordPress format. Beth informed the group about how the wifi hotspots work. They are checked out like other library materials. They're good for 3 weeks. If they're not returned at the end of 3 weeks, they're shut off. They count as a book and are available to Oakmont and Verona residents.

The Board reviewed Deborah's proposal regarding the rose bushes along Pennsylvania Avenue. The Board discussed the general condition of the shrubs and what would be done to fill the empty space created by their removal. The Board entertained two options: replacement of the shrubs with several knock-out roses or painting of a mural by Riverview students. Deborah moved that the unhealthy rose bushes be removed and that a plan on what to do with the empty space be decided in January, 2021. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed. Beth will contact the Borough for removal of the unhealthy rose bushes.

Beth shared her report. Fund raising is on track in spite of our limited fund-raising activities. The Library will be listed as a charitable organization for Pittsburgh Gives which is the first Tuesday in December. The Squirrel's Nest sold \$750.00 worth of used books, which will be rolled into the fund-raising total for Love Your Library. Beth indicated that the Library received donations from several first-time donors. The Board expressed support of and interest in the virtual book reviews Paula is sharing on Facebook. The book reviews will be moved to the Library website. We will talk about the staff holiday brunch in November.

Laurie focused on the Board's need for a new member since Matt's term ends in December. The Board will also need a new treasurer. Matt provided an overview of his responsibilities. The Board will revisit the issue of bringing on new members in November.

Matt reviewed the financial report with the Board. Matt continues to think that the Library will be in good shape through the end of 2020 due to reduced expenses related to staffing and building usage. We will move forward with repairing the water damage sustained by the Children's area. The money was already in our 2020 budget. In terms of the 2021 budget there are a few numbers that need to be adjusted. The Board discussed moving money from the endowment in 2021 into the library operating budget. Doing so demonstrates a commitment to the Borough by the Board. Monies from Frank Furko's bequest continue to be in dispute. The Borough is reviewing our 2020 capital requests.

Laurie updated the Board regarding on-going discussions with Borough and Borough Council representatives. The Board discussed structure options and what steps the Board will need to

take depending on what structure the Board decides to adopt. Laurie will ask Beth Williams to come to the November board meeting. The Board reviewed the state's requirement that 12% of the Library's expenditure budget be spent on books, magazines and other materials. The group talked about how libraries are funded in Allegheny County.

The building assessment will occur before year's end, under Tom Briney's supervision. Findings from the assessment will guide anticipated capital repairs for when our obligation regarding the Bond is complete in 2024.

Having no further items for discussion, Katie moved the meeting be adjourned; Wendy seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Ormay
Recording Secretary