

# LIBRARY BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKMONT

## Minutes

July 13, 2022

Present: Ann Galm, Wendy Emery, Beth Mellor, Shane Michael, Deborah Ormay, Rebecca Panza, Heather Pletcher, Laurie Sliben

Absent: Jeanette Eleff

Guest: Karen Crowell, Stephanie Zimble

Chair Shane Michael called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June meeting. Laurie moved the minutes be approved; Deb seconded. There was no further discussion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Shane introduced our guests, Karen Crowell and Stephanie Zimble from the Library staff. Stephanie began to speak about the Maker Space. April was the soft open, May was the official opening ceremony, and now we are in July and 4 months into using the space. It has been very successful, and everyone is very happy that uses the space. There is the 3D printer, cricut machine, a sewing machine, and a music station with a keyboard and guitar. It was anticipated that a small group of people would be interested in using the space and they would be trained one on one. There has been such a turnout of people interested in coming to use the space that now one on one trainings have turned into group trainings that require registration. Stephanie mentioned that many people coming to use the space don't exactly know what they want to do or what they want to use, they just want to use it. She is going to start doing themed trainings in the Fall. Ann asked what the age limit was to use the space. Stephanie stated that there is no age limit but those under 13 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Karen began to speak about Summer Reading. The post pandemic program looks different after over 2 years. There were 30 programs in June alone this year, and in the past has only been about 50 all summer. There is always a lot happening. During 2:00 Tuesdays, Karen's STEAM program is lower tech and for ages 5-11 and runs at the same time Dave's program does for ages 12 plus. They keep the doors open and share materials between the two programs and it creates such a fun atmosphere for the kids. When the programs are over, Karen will box up the supplies and move them to the Maker space area or use them for outreach programming in Verona. There will be a meeting in August to develop Fall programming.

The Library and Information Science department at the University of Pittsburgh has been helping in our search for a new Intern. We will have a new intern starting in the Fall, Kendall Resnick. The school was surprised with how much our interns get to do and experience. Nia, our current intern, helps in every area possible that she wishes. Beth stated that a lot of libraries in the county are much bigger and have much more staff, so their interns are given the "grunt" work. We are much smaller and fortunately can let our interns really be hands on in a lot.

Ann questioned if people from outside of our community come to the Library. Stephanie stated that we have people from Westmoreland and New Kensington come and we have cast a wide net.

The Board reviewed the Staff Reports. Beth reported that the Library staff all have different areas that they specialize in to help people choose a new book. We also use a tool called NoveList. Beth shared that the link to the site was on the OCL's website, and anyone can use it. She also mentioned that the library subscribes to many databases that anyone can use. These subscriptions show up in our front year expenses.

Beth presented the Director's report. The Love Your Library (LYL) campaign will start September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Library is looking into marketing with a TV spot and there will be more to come on that. Shane questioned about the Keystone Grant. Beth stated that the applications opened later in July. We will put in our preliminary application when able. We have all the data that we need from the engineering company to complete the application. There are new criteria to follow each year when the applications are released. They are normally due end of September. Shane questioned if we would need to bid the job out. Beth answered yes, anything over \$20,000 we are required to bid out.

Beth passed around furniture examples that we used the money from Jerry Little donations to purchase. We will have a ribbon cutting for the area when all is completed and request for the media to come.

Deb questioned if we received any Russ Truby memorials. Beth stated that we have not, but his family requested that money be sent to RCAC and/or the Relay for Life. The Library did send flowers before seeing that the family requested donations.

Shane presented the Chair's Report. There was a ACLA regional meeting to discuss RAD funding for next year. There is 7 million dollars to share amongst all the county libraries. There is a formula which decides who gets what. Next week the compensation courses begin as well.

The Lions Club has began discussing doing the Touch a Truck event in the Fall. Shane questioned whether the Library wanted to be involved. Much discussion arose around the topic as we had discussed this last year as well. Shane made a motion to report to the Lions Club that the OCL board was interested in helping, Ann seconded, and all were in agreeance.

Wendy presented the Finance Report. She reported that we are all on target. LYL library will start in September. Last year we raised \$26,000. Shane questioned what happened with all of our fundraising money. Beth stated the Borough puts it in the budget as a line item. However, we can set specific funds for specific items if we wish.

Jeanette was absent but emailed Shane to give an update about Verona. She asked he share with the group that on August 13<sup>th</sup>, Verona would host a community wide yard sale.

The Board discussed Teen Advisory Boards. Beth stated that there were different approaches to a board having a Teen Advisory Board. This group of teens could advise or run a program for the Library, or they could come make a presentation to the Board. Beth suggested speaking with the Librarian at Riverview High School. We need to determine how we see it working out. Maybe we could ask the teens themselves what they would like to see at the Library and if they would be interested in something like this.

Shane questioned if we should create a subcommittee. Laurie said she would reach out to the Superintendent of Riverview to see what the Librarian would have to say about this. We can discuss at next meeting and go from there.

There being no further business to discuss, Laurie moved the meeting be adjourned; Rebecca seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 7:56pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Pletcher

Recording Secretary