

LIBRARY BOARD OF OAKMONT CARNEGIE LIBRARY
Minutes
January 11, 2023

Present:, Wendy Emery, Ann Galm, Beth Mellor, Shane Michael, Rebecca Panza, Laura Spisak, Ann Buechli

Absent: Heather Pletcher, Jeanette Eleff

Chair Shane Michael called the meeting to order at 6:33.

Chair Shane Michael introduced new Board member Buechli. The Board expressed their pleasure in having both Ann and Laura on the Board, and Beth thanked them both for their interest in being involved. Both were sworn in January 17th.

Beth mentioned that chess lessons will be held for 8-19 year olds in the library. High schoolers will be asked if they're interested. This will be held Mondays at 3:30 PM.

Shane discussed having 10 meetings per year. No meetings held in February or August. Jeanette is a great asset and connection to the pulse of Verona. Frank Santucci from the Verona Historical Society. possibly speaking at the March Board meeting. All agreed that the library truly is a community center for both boroughs.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the December meeting. Laura's last name was incorrect (Spisak is correct). Ann G moved the minutes be accepted as amended; Wendy seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed staff reports. Kelsie will add report for MakerSpace in March. She also sits at the front desk. Reviewed staff responsibilities/areas of focus. New furniture looks great. Obtaining new books for adults transitioning between jobs. Meeting on the 24th to review the reading theme and focus for the year, as well as programming. They will meet again at the end of the summer. There's a new program for women retiring from the workforce. Staff is going to see LAMPS for one-hour tour in Shadyside as a branch for special needs, visually impaired and hearing impaired. There is one other branch like this in Pennsylvania located out in Philadelphia. LAMP stands for Library Accessible Media for Pennsylvanians. Ann mentioned the DE&I offered and was impressed.

Shane discussed all the fundraising opportunities for the year such as ToTT, Touch a Truck, Love Your Library, Give Big Tuesday which are the major fundraisers. Bike ride was nice, easy event for the community. Booktoberfest made the same monies as Touch a Truck. Trivia Night raised \$360 after expenses. Most funds raised go toward programming. May 7th is the confirmed date for ToTT event from 5-7 PM.

Wendy shared the financial report. She mentioned that revenue from all fundraising increased by 10%. RAD funding – extra 1% tax + extra money. Have to hit 12%. We reached 9% (state regulation) spending on books. Beth explained more expenses were spent on the building than budgeted (\$25K). RAD runs the formula. Bond payment was less than estimated. Monies carried over to CY23 are going toward building costs. Endowment is now \$827K. As a reminder, Wells Fargo manages the endowment.

The Verona update says that Stephanie Wolford is the new borough manager. Frank will speak at the March 8th meeting. Occasional story times in the summer at the pavilion. Because the borough of Verona doesn't donate monies to the library, there isn't a voting Board member allowed.

Beth went through the fundraising review. Professional fundraisers studied what we do, and they did this with each individual library branch. We would like to obtain the donor software and get fundraising training. The donate button on the website will be moved to the top of the page. The library giving day is April 5, 2023. Our donation letters are usually sent before other fundraising campaigns in Oakmont. There are four monthly sustaining givers as well as other monthly giving.

There being no further business to discuss, Wendy moved that the meeting be adjourned to executive session. Laura seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, and the Board adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Panza
Acting Recording Secretary