

LIBRARY BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKMONT

MINUTES

November 8, 2023

Present: Beth Mellor, Karen Crowell, Shane Michael, Ann Buechli, Rebecca Panza, Wendy Emery, Laura Spisak, Jeannette Eleff

Chair Shane Michael called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM.

The October minutes were reviewed. Rebecca moved that the minutes be approved and Ann B. seconded. There was no further discussion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Staff reports

All were reviewed. The Maker Space continues to get more use as people have become aware of it.

Director's Report

The report was reviewed.

The used book sale on November 4 resulted in a total income of \$1847.00. The sale remained busy throughout the day up until closing time.

A new library assistant will begin work on November 15. She was trained at CLP. The board reviewed her resume.

The Love Your Library campaign received \$16,675 in donations and that is before the matching funds.

Chair's Report

Wendy has resigned as of the end of 2023 and will need to be replaced. Beth and Shane will check with the borough to see if there are any applicants. If not, the opening will be advertised.

Beth has submitted her retirement notice, effective January 26, 2024. Her open position will be advertised through the ACLA and the Library school. Resumes will be due by December 31. Candidates will be interviewed primarily by Shane and Rebecca, although other board members may have an opportunity to meet the candidates. Once a decision is made, the recommendation will be made to the borough manager, who in turn will take it to council. In the meantime, an interim director will likely be appointed.

Financial Report

There will be extra money available in the budget at the end of the year due to a donation of \$6,000.00 from the Wachter Family Foundation.

Beth has reviewed the 2024 budget with Scott Fodi. The building assessment was added to the budget.

New computers can be purchased in 2024.

Rebecca inquired about additional security cameras. The board agrees that they are needed. They will be purchased soon.

Purchase of a fire suppression system is dependent on finalization of the borough's budget.

Verona Update

Jeannette took some books to the free standing book stand on Railroad Street two months ago. All the books were taken, so the stand was refilled with books from the book sale.

Discussion

The bid process for the HVAC system is going on at this time. Money from the grant will be received once the job is completed and paid for in full.

The Verona Storywalk grant has been completed, with just a few tweaks to be made before submitting.

Beth and Karen met with the High School librarian about obtaining student input in regard to what they would like to see at the Oakmont Library. A survey will be developed to target the middle school students sometime in December. The high school students are too busy with academics and activities.

There is a senior student at the high school who is interested in becoming a librarian and wants to job shadow.

The new slate of officers was discussed and is as follows:

Chair - Rebecca

Vice Chair - Ann Galm (Ann was not present, so the board is hopeful she will agree.)

Finance - Ann Buechli

Secretary - Laura

The official vote will take place in December.

There being no further business, Rebecca Moved to adjourn. Wendy seconded. The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spisak (covering for Heather Pletcher)

