

## LIBRARY BOARD OF THE BOROUGH OF OAKMONT

### Minutes

June 14, 2023

Present: Ann Galm, Shane Michael, Beth Mellor, Rebecca Panza, Wendy Emery, Laura Spisak, Ann Buechli in the library and Jeanette Eleff, via Zoom.

Chair Shane Michael called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

Jeanette supplied a thank you card for Frank Santucci of the Verona Historical Society, which everyone signed.

The Board reviewed the May minutes. The following changes were made:

- a.) the spelling of Laura's last name was corrected.
- b.) Under Jeanette's Verona report, the word "met" was changed to "bumped into" to indicate that it was not a formal meeting.
- c.) Beth informed the Board that the updated online catalogue will go live on June 30 rather than June 12, as stated in the May minutes.

With no further discussion, Rebecca moved to approve the minutes and Wendy seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Ann B. stated she had the link for continuing education for Board members and would forward it to all.

#### **Staff reports:**

Stephanie's report was a review of the Makerspace activity and the technology for the new catalogue search.

#### **The Director's report (Beth):**

There is extra RAD (Regional Asset District) money available for Verona, which Beth and Karen believe is sustainable because the Oakmont library serves Verona as a distressed community. One idea for the money is a permanent story garden that is changed quarterly. There would be approximately 30 stands with one page per stand and it would be like the story garden at the front of the library. This idea is expected to be presented to Verona Council on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of July. Meanwhile, Shane requested more information via email.

Karen's new title as Assistant Director of the Library will be voted on at the next Oakmont Council meeting.

#### **The Chair's Report (Shane):**

Shane complimented the new art display in the library. He expressed continued interest in exploring the possibility of allowing our Verona representative to become a voting member of the Board. There is the issue of lack of financial support from Verona, which means that an ordinance might have to be changed. Laura asked if Verona would have to contribute the same amount as Oakmont and the answer from Shane was no. Shane will follow-up with Scott Fodi, Borough

Manager, and Nancy Ride, Council President. Nancy has indicated informally that she is open to listening to the options.

**The Financial Report (Wendy):**

Oakmont Borough transferred \$305,000.00 to the library, which is a regular transmittal.

There was more money deposited from TOTT (Taste of Two Towns), but not all the money was deposited in May.

We are on target for expenditures.

The Wells Fargo account decreased slightly. The \$5000.00 deposit in the beginning of the report is interest.

The Keystone Grant is not in the account yet, but the matching money is already there under general grants.

Bids are expected to be underway for HVAC upgrades.

**Verona Update (Jeanette):**

The Botany and Booze event was very well attended.

The Verona Farmer's Market has started up.

The free-standing book stand in Verona is not labeled, but it does have kids' books in it. Most of these book stands are independently sponsored and Jeanette asked if we could sponsor it. It is believed that the music store is connected to this book stand, so Jeanette will investigate the situation with them.

Jeanette asked if the library is taking book donations now. Beth responded yes, but it is not advertised because an overwhelming number of books are received.

There was a discussion of the changes submitted for the bylaws and some policies. Changes were agreed upon. Shane will choose the next batch of policies to be reviewed.

Shane presented the idea of having a teenage student on the Board. The discussion included a question of what the expectations of the students would be and whether they need to attend every month. It was suggested that we could draw a member from the KEY Club or the Senior Civics class. The Board is interested to know what type of programming teenagers want from the library and whether they are aware of what the library has to offer besides books. Beth will follow up on this.

With no further business to discuss, Ann B. moved to adjourn and Ann G. seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Spisak

