

Weston Public Library Board Meeting September 2, 2014

PRESENT: Denis Toner, Chairman Amy Sanborn, Michael Bellacosa, Lynne Langlois, Rick Ross, Harriette Heller, Anne Hunt and Director Karen Tatarka

BY PHONE: Barbara Groves

Chairman Sanborn called the meeting order at 7:50 PM.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Toner said there was nothing to report.

BOARD GOVERNED FUNDS

Chairman Sanborn reported that we are currently on a holding pattern due to the renovation project.

SPACE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

Chairman Sanborn reported that we have accomplished a great deal since our last Board meeting. The grant application was filed on August 29th. Members Hunt and Langlois and Director Tatarka have done a great job working on the project.

Chairman Sanborn reviewed the grant application process and the various meetings conducted since the last board meeting, including meetings with First Selectman Weinstein and Tom Landry and the Gisolfi team.

The committee has decided to apply for the maximum amount of State money potentially available for a Category 2 grant.

The windows were tested for both PCBs and asbestos. While both materials were found, the levels were quite low. If the windows are replaced, proper remediation will be required for both substances. Since the levels are low, no further testing is required. Additionally, the ceiling joints were tested for asbestos and none was found.

Director Tatarka finalized the narrative to go with the grant application. We will need to determine which aspects of the project, when finalized, will need to be reviewed by the Historic District Commission.

In October, the grant applications will be reviewed by the State. A decision should be received by November 24. We would have up to a year to provide matching funds.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Members Toner, Ross and Groves have been in contact with Director Tatarka. They have reviewed the survey and forum results. The service objectives will be discussed in the next few months. Technology will also be discussed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gate count for August was 4,515. This count is up by about 900. Print circulation is up as well. The trends are good.

Miss Joy finished the summer reading program.

On September 13 there will be a Touch a Truck event.

Minecraft will continue through the winter months.

SCORE is presenting a program on September 11 instructing how to use social media to promote a company's products.

The next newsletter is almost completed.

Interviews for a library part-time worker will begin shortly. There were about 30 applications.

We have 2 new pages. In the next budget cycle, more money for our pages is going to be requested.

Parks and Recreation pages get paid more.

VHS tapes and books on tape are currently on sale. Their circulation has been very low. Alternatives to these media are being investigated.

Better World Books is a 501(c)(3) organization that will take our books that do not sell at the book sale and try to resell them or recycle them.

October 19, Matthew Harrison and Vlada Yaneva will be returning for a piano concert. Their theme this time is folk music. Member Groves volunteered to provide refreshments.

Director Tatarka handed out a Comparative Report for 2013-2014. Adult print book circulation is declining but e-books are increasing. Young adult and children book circulation is up. JobNow is going to be discontinued due to lack of usage. Transparent Language, Atomic Training and IndieFlix are also being assessed.

Now that we get the fees back from book late fees, our budget is pretty even.

Chairman Sanborn said she had been in contact with the guidance department to see if SAT practice tests would be a good service for the library to provide. She has not received an answer.

FRIENDS

The group did not meet in August.

We have yet to hear about the New Yorker program funding request therefore we can't approve funding.

The program is resuming meetings on September 9.

A World War I program begins September 3. The program will include 4 movies and lectures.

MINUTES

Member Ross moved to accept the August minutes as modified. Member Bellacosa seconded. Member Heller abstained. There were seven votes to accept the minutes as modified with one abstention.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A fine arts program was discussed.

Member Ross moved to adjourn. Member Heller seconded. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hunt
Secretary