

Weston Public Library Board Meeting April 1, 2014

PRESENT: Michael Bellacosa, Denis Toner, Lynne Langlois, Harriette Heller, Joan Henderson, Anne Hunt, Amy Sanborn and Director Karen Tatarka

BY PHONE: Barbara Groves

ABSENT: Rick Ross

Chairman Sanborn called the meeting to order at 7:48 PM

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Nothing to report

BOARD GOVERNED FUNDS

- According to the Town, these funds are covered as a special revenue account. Rick Darling said that they have not been reviewed lately because the accounts have been inactive (mostly Vitale funds). Should we have a large expense, we can move money from one account to another. We will require two signatures for any expenditure of \$1,000 or more. Pat Sullivan has suggested different wording in the explanation of these funds.
- Director's Fund and Programming Fund. These funds will be handled by separate checking accounts. The account for the Programming Fund is to be established.
- Currently there is a \$200 limit on programs which Director Tatarka handles. Anything over that amount requires Board approval.
- Discussion on Chairman Sanborn's revisions on Treasurer Toner's draft of Board Governed Funds. She and Director Tatarka are working with Pat Sullivan, Town Attorney, to finalize the documents. Chairman Sanborn will work on a document summary for consideration to appear on the website. Treasurer Toner is working with Rick Darling on any additional approvals required by the Town. These will be obtained when the Board Governed Funds documents are finalized.

BUDGET

- The public hearing to discuss the Town budget will be tomorrow in the Middle School Cafeteria at 8:00. The Friends will send out an e-mail blast to remind everyone.
- Key items on our budget are: the book budget, programming, and additional funds for staff.

SPACE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

- There were 198 responses to the Town-wide survey. Director Tatarka passed out the results from Survey Monkey. She will be receiving criteria for applying for a state grant later this month. Time is crucial.
- The next Space Planning Committee meeting will be Friday, April 4 at 10:00 AM.

TECHNOLOGY

- There has been good feedback from the website. The Forum ran a front page article about its launch. Karen Bennett and Director Tatarka have taken classes on various aspects of the site and how to customize it.
- The Raspberry Pi project is underway. The project has been challenging for the students. It was

suggested that they give a presentation of their work when they are finished.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 45 groups used the library in March. Odyssey of the Mind has started. The gate count for March was 5,561. This is an increase over last March. April and May will be strong programming months.
- Director Tatarka is working with the Middle School on a special program whose goal is to dig a well in Sudan.
- There will be a sale of LPs at the end of May/beginning of June.
- Programming: a piano concert by Matthew and Valada is planned for October. Member Bellacosa is looking into an astronomy program.
- The Friends are considering a program with James Naughton on May 17th.
- The piano needs tuning but it doesn't need to be done until there is a piano program scheduled.
- In the summer, the Food Pantry runs low on supplies. Possibly we could run a food drive for non-perishables. If someone brought in a can, they would get \$1 off any late-fee fines they had. Director Tatarka will look into this further.
- Joe Lametta sent people from Public Works to clean out the basement. They found a small mold problem down there. It will be investigated. The shelving down there has been removed.
- Karen Bennett has taken a course at Fairfield University on the Maker Movement, a program which incorporates more stem courses (science, technology and math) into library programs.
- Director Tatarka has reviewed a new e-book program through 3-M in addition to OverDrive.

FRIENDS

- The New Yorker programs have been going well. They need to revise the amount we are contributing because some of the participants have their own subscriptions to the New Yorker. The Senior Center contributed less than the one-third they had originally agreed to pay. The consensus of the meeting was to keep supporting the program.
- The Artscapades program is getting a good turn-out.
- James Naughton and Chris Coogan are slated to perform on May 17th. A suggested contribution of \$750 to cover costs was made. This will be free to the community. Member Hunt moved to support the program with a donation of up to \$1,000. Member Henderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

- Member Langlois moved to accept the March minutes as amended. Member Heller seconded. The minutes were approved with Member Groves and Chairman Sanborn abstaining.

Member Bellacosa moved to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer Toner seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Hunt
Secretary