

MINUTES

PRESENT: Marjorie Galen, Suzanna Frosch, John Guzewich, Christopher Keywork, Natalie Barak, Maria Gagliardi, Director. Debbie Firestone, recording.

EXCUSED: Beverly Warwick Jennifer Citrolo, Margaret Cook, Matt Miller

Marjorie called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

- Suzanna moved to approve minutes from the 2/08/17 board meeting. Christopher seconded. All in favor.

Librarian's Report: presented by Maria

- Copy attached

Financial Report: Christopher reviewed the financials through March 31st.

- Natalie moved to approve the March 31st Financial Statements. John seconded. All in favor.
- Christopher moved to approve the Friends, Historic, Dorothy Davis accounts through March 31st. John seconded. All in favor.

Old Business:

Building Committee: John presented the building update.

- Electrical service to building repair: weighing options regarding reducing service to building to 200 amp or keeping it at 400amp. Reducing it would save money, but would require an electrical engineer to assess which may negate the cost savings. History of electrical consumption showed the building's highest spike at about 80 amps, so the 200amp service should be sufficient
- Marjorie moved that an electrical engineer be hired to assess the amp reduction in service. Suzanna seconded. All in favor.
- John will work on the gutters this weekend.

Symposia Committee: Marjorie presented the update.

- Food will not be sold at the upcoming symposium, but food will be available and a donation jar will be out. It was discussed who would bring what.
- Media, advertising for the event was discussed – emails, local news interest, etc.
- It was discussed if the upcoming symposium would be a good place to start collecting names of parties interested in joining the Friends Group – which is a work in progress.
- Dinner/Dance resurrection discussed. To initially be a community gathering less focused on fundraising and more on library awareness, to later develop into a fundraising event.
- Natalie and Suzanna volunteered to be in the Dance Committee and Beverly was nominated to join as well. Committee will meet before next board meeting to brainstorm. Targeted time frame would be January 2018 for first event.

Gift and Donation Committee: Skipped as Beverly was not present.

New Business:

- The library received a check for half of the balance of the Sean McCarthy Fund which was set up many years ago for the Palisades and Tappan Libraries to purchase children's poetry books with the interest earned. The Tappan Library received a check in the same amount to close out the account.
- Marjorie moved to set up the Sean McCarthy Poetry Fund (\$5,023.47). Suzanna seconded. All in favor.
- A children's poetry event/contest or writing class were discussed as possible events the fund could support.
- No action was taken on the By-Laws. Replacing the Annual Meeting with an actual new trustee election in late October every year was discussed. Incorporating this change would be in compliance with the existing Charter which specifies trustee terms expire on December 31. A change in the bylaws will be presented at the next meeting.
- Maria reported the construction grant work was completed and paid and final funds would be forthcoming.
- Maria presented a Report to the Community which included statistics, facts and figures for 2016. It will be posted on the library website for the community to review.

Next Meeting: June 14, 2017 at 7:30pm in the Marie H. Firestone Community Room at the Palisades Free Library. Marjorie moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm, John seconded. All in favor.

Librarian's Report

Personnel

Our new Children's Librarian, Claudia Uccellani, comes to us from the Nyack Library. She will work 16 hours a week and one weekend a month. Claudia will order children's books, maintain the children's room and conduct story times and programs.

Programs

- The Cookbook Club draws between 3 and 4 people.
- The Artists Way Meetup Group has a regular following. 10 people regularly attend. 52 Members have joined the online Meetup Group.
- Little Known Films, March 18, *On Guard*. 26 people at this showing. Some brought their own chairs.
- Open play Mah Jongg is still meeting Tuesday mornings with 4 - 5 players.
- Anya is leading a book group of 10 – 15 residents at the Esplanade once a month.
- On Saturday, February 4, Anya had a table at the Farmers' Market. She and Claudia will go together on April 29.
- Children's programs are increasing in numbers. We had 13 turn out for the 2.5 -5 year olds for the egg hunt program. 6 came to the 5 and up session.
- Computer club is meeting again and Olivia Steger is going to start a math homework help drop in at the end of April.
- Recognizing Mental Health Issues in Adolescence is a joint program with the 5 SOCS D libraries to be held at the Tappan Library on March 29. 34 people attended.
- We will resume a weekly story time at the Library with the Preschool in late April. There will be 2 sessions for 3 year olds and one session for 4 year olds. It will be open to the public. We are also sending a librarian to Bright Horizons once a month to do a story time.
- Planning for Summer Reading has begun. The theme is Build a Better World.

Computer Equipment

Our server was running on software that was no longer supported and the machine is 8 years old. We've replaced it with a regular computer with file sharing software for a savings of over \$4,000.