



April 15, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Public Library commenced at 4:30 PM, 1426 Perkiomen Ave, Reading, PA. Nancy Campbell, President, presiding.

Present: Zelda Yoder, Paul Hoh, Nancy Campbell, Renee Dietrich, Dennis Skayhan, Sherry Cameron, Michel Micozzi, Alfonso Pena, Keith Mooney, Tamara Smith, Salvadore Sepulveda, Greg Knies, Bronwen Gamble and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Maureen Dolan and Alan Carman. Excused.

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the March 2019 Minutes made by Keith Mooney, seconded by Zelda Yoder. Approved.

Treasurers Report: Dennis Skayhan made the motion to accept the March Treasurer's report. Seconded by Paul Hoh. Accepted.

Director's Report: Report given by Bronwen Gamble. Food for Fines during National Library Week has been successful. Food bins were full. Bronwen and Mike Najarian are attending the Vistacon Tech Expo tomorrow to view new technology equipment for the meeting rooms. Last week during City Council Bronwen shared that patrons have saved \$5,690,000 from borrowing RPL items. Bronwen shared that she is working with Levi at Googleworks to have a private showing of "The Public" and split ticket sales with RPL donating their share of the proceeds with the Berks Coalition to End Homelessness. Nancy mentioned the Reading Eagle opinion page regarding libraries.

Library Services: Zelda Yoder reported that our solicitor Jim Smith had reviewed the Whistleblower Policy and made a few revisions.

Motion to accept the Whistleblower Policy effective April 15, 2019 made by Zelda Yoder, seconded by Dennis Skayhan. Accepted.

Facilities: Michel Micozzi gave the report. The committee is working on fine-tuning the drawings for the meeting rooms and a budget should be out this week. The new fire alarm system at the Main Library moved up on the City's priority list. Air Conditioning at the Northwest Branch is going to the design phase.

Finance: Greg Knies gave the report. The committee met today prior to the board meeting and discussed an endowment spending policy. The Ken Smith endowment was used to fund the capital improvements in 2014 per board approval. However, funds used should have been charged to the Board Capital Improvement endowment.

Motion by Greg Knies to transfer the necessary funds from the Board Capital Improvement endowment to the Ken Smith endowment to bring the principal up to 1 million. Seconded by Paul Hoh. Approved.

Bronwen mentioned that RPL employee medical insurance is up for renewal and that we would see a 16% cost savings by transferring from Capital Blue Cross to UPMC as our carrier effective June 1. With the additional savings Bronwen suggested that we open the Northwest Branch up an additional day (Wednesday) each week during the summer.

Motion by Greg Knies to open the Northwest Branch on Wednesdays with one additional staff member during the months of June, July & August. Seconded by Dennis Skayhan. Approved.

Personnel: No Report

Advancement: Renee Dietrich reported that the spring issue of *PAGES* was mailed at the end of March. Next year's Cocktails and Classics event will be on March 6th at the Doubletree in Reading. The Advancement report shows receipts to date of \$123,071.

Strategic Planning: Paul Hoh will schedule the next strategic planning meeting to be prior to the board meeting on May 20th at 3:30 PM with Al Weber. Staff will meet on May 1 to discuss current objectives and moving forward.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Paul Hoh usually attends the BCPL monthly meetings but will be unable to do so April 17th at 7 PM. In his absence, Dennis Skayhan volunteered to attend. Sherry Cameron attended the Great Decisions program which had 12 people in attendance. The speaker was Larry Cohen who did a wonderful job. The next program is on Cyber Security on April 24 from 12 – 1:30 PM. Renee attended the Wyomissing Public Library Candidates Forum. The consensus is that libraries need more funding.

Trivia: What year did National Library Week start? 1958.

Motion to adjourn made by Paul Hoh and seconded by Zelda Yoder. Approved.

Respectively submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,



Sherry Cameron
Board Secretary