



October 21, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Public Library commenced at 4:30 PM at the Northeast Branch located at 1348 N. 11th St., Reading, PA. Nancy Campbell, President, presiding.

**Present:** Zelda Yoder, Paul Hoh, Alan Carman, Sherry Cameron, Maureen Dolan, Tamara Smith, Michel Micozzi, Alfonso Pena, Keith Mooney, Nancy Campbell, Renee Dietrich, Ernie Schlegel, Chris Phillips, Bronwen Gamble, Vicky Fuller & Linda Capozello.

**Absent:** Dennis Skayhan, Salvadore Sepulveda Excused.

**Guest:** Amy Resh, BCPL.

**Public Comment:** Amy Resh did not have an update on the 2% increase appeal from September.

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the September Minutes with a comment revision was made by Paul Hoh, seconded by Alan Carman. Approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Motion to accept the September Treasurer's Report was made by Alfonso Pena and seconded by Keith Mooney. Accepted.

**Director's Report:** Report given by Bronwen Gamble. The new District Consultant has been selected by a panel of librarians. It was a unanimous decision to select Stephanie Williams. She will start on November 1, 2019. The Department of Education is funding the American College Application program which would create one application to be used across all PA colleges and universities. Our Teen Loft department will be collaborating with the Holleran Center and will be one of the first to pilot the program. The last weekend of Comic Con will be Saturday, October 26th. Cos Players and members from the Yocum Institute will be present as well as music provided by the Reading Symphony Orchestra.

**Library Services:** Zelda Yoder reported that the committee followed up with the elimination of Teen fines on books and will do a pilot program in 2020. When mentioned at the County Librarians meeting, all the county libraries were interested in doing the same.

Motion to eliminate Teen fines on books with an education element was made by Zelda Yoder and seconded by Keith Mooney. Approved.

**Facilities:** Maureen Dolan summarized the progress on the Marcus Meeting Commons at the main library. Contracts were written and all have been returned and executed. Drywall is up and electricians have removed existing light fixtures. Old carpet squares were removed and new carpet installation is 2 weeks out. Permits were received and will be posted on the front entrance of the building. Steve Stauffer Painting is donating the paint, supplies and labor for the project. A second Technology bid for the A/V as a service was received. Ernie Schlegel will pursue grant funding for LED lights at the main library and branches. An updated Capital Improvements list has been received by Ralph Johnson at Public Works. Flood damage in Administration at the Main Library was addressed. The leak was chased, repaired and sealed and the sidewalk replaced.

**Finance:** Alan Carman reported that the Finance Committee met prior to the board meeting today. Alan commented on the increase of DLC funds was received, and we have not yet needed to draw additional funds from investments but will need to do so before year end. At this time, we are under budget on our expenses. The transition to BB&T has been seamless. Accounts were opened, online banking, and remote deposit capture are functional. Vicky Fuller has ACH training on Wednesday.

**Personnel:** No Report at this time.

**Advancement:** Renee Dietrich provided handouts of the recent article protesting the publisher's changes to digital audiobook licensing. Several other Pennsylvania district libraries have also joined in the boycott. To date we have raised over 305,000 in funding. The Cultivation Event will be held on Thursday, November 21st from 5:30-7 PM. Banners for the building will be installed within the next week.

**Strategic Planning:** No Report

**Unfinished Business:** Ernie Schlegel mentioned that according to the Charter Board of the City of Reading, the library is not required to follow the City's purchasing policy to include RFPs.

**New Business:** None

Paul Hoh mentioned that the Reading Library Company meeting will be held on November 11th at the Northeast Branch at 4:30 PM. They will be appointing new trustees to the Board.

Trivia: What are the 3 Berks County Public Libraries that provide passport services? Boyertown, Kutztown and Sinking Spring.

Motion to adjourn made by Ernie Schlegel, seconded by Alan Carman. Approved.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherry Cameron". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Sherry Cameron  
Board Secretary