



May 16, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Public Library commenced at 4:30 PM, Dennis Skayhan, President, presiding.

Present: Dennis Skayhan, Alan Carman, Chris Phillips, Renee Dietrich, Zelda Yoder, Salvadore Sepulveda, Sherry Cameron, Keith Mooney, Nancy Campbell, Ramona Turner Turpin, Alba Fernandez, Patty Bell, Melissa Adams and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Felix Pena, Scott Lindsey, Michel Micozzi. Excused.

Guests: Becky Wanamaker, Linda Capozello and Amy Resh

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes:** Motion to approve the March minutes was made by Alan Carman and seconded by Salvadore Sepulveda. Approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Chris Phillips reported that income and expenses are as expected as we monitor cash flow. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Tigh distribution should arrive in mid June. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report for both March and April was made by Alan Carman and seconded by Keith Mooney. Accepted.

**Director's Report:** Melissa Adams discussed the HVAC system and new generator needs for the Main library. The current cost to date is \$726,776 with an estimated 34-50 time frame to secure the equipment. Construction would not occur until Spring of 2023 with completion around May. Concerns regarding the hotter summer temperatures on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The City is working on solutions for the summer. We received notice from BCPL that we were in compliance for 2021. ARPA funds are still on the table, meetings are scheduled to discuss how the funds will be distributed. The library held Active Shooter training with Ken Miller during the staff meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Melissa discussed Amendment Audits with staff on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The Southeast van was vandalized and caught on our new security cameras. A claim has been filed with our insurance company. We have received grant funding from the Wyomissing Foundation for the SOP Coordinator as well as for Summer @ RPL for Main and Northeast.

Becky Wanamaker reported she, Melissa, Marissa and the DNA Committee were actively and intensely working to craft the district agreement and budget in support of all the libraries in the district. Their focus is on making the best use of the budget to support the services and needs of the libraries with things like digital databases, electronic materials, programming and outreach as well as training opportunities. Becky has been visiting each member library and is almost done. Renee asked about advocacy at the county level regarding the state budget and if there were any visits to representatives. The county received \$100,000 in ARPA funds with an additional \$25,000 being allocated to the District.

**Library Services:** No Report

**Facilities:** No Report

**Finance:** No Report

**Personnel:** Keith Mooney reported the committee met prior to today's meeting and discussed the Director's goals and using a goal setting tool that is aligned with then needs of the library. An email will be forthcoming. Keith inquired about an organization chart. Vicky said she would email to him after the meeting.

**Strategic Planning:** No Report

**Advancement:** Nancy Campbell reported that Celebrity Bartender is this Thursday at Saucony Creek Franklin Station from 5-8 PM. Out of the five bartenders we have, one has already reached their goal. You can go

online to make donations. The Summer @ RPL solicitation letters are going out. We have received EITC funds from Truist and a pledge from Tomkins Vist. Money will be spent on specific programs such as Food for Thought, Pizza & Pages, Make it Monday and some stem programs. Dr. Marcus has agreed to fund a meeting room for the Northeast branch with a projected date this fall. The Advancement Committee is looking for an annual appeal chairman. The job description was shared with the board for anyone they can identify as a potential candidate. Cocktails and Classics will be held on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Sponsorship letters are available.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Dennis Skayhan welcomed Patty Bell as a new trustee appointed by the City of Reading. She is the Human Resources Director for Berks Connections Pre-Trial Services.

Motion to appoint Paul Hoh for a 3 year term on the Foundation Board of Directors was made by Keith Mooney and seconded by Renee Dietrich. Approved. Motion to appoint Craig Perrotty to a 3 year term was made by Ramona Turner Turpin and seconded by Zelda Yoder. Approved.

Discussion was held regarding observing Monday holidays when we are scheduled to have Board meetings and whether we should change the date or move to another day in the same week. It was decided that upon planning the meeting dates for next year the board would review the dates closer and schedule meetings on a different Monday when possible if there is a holiday.

Zelda's trivia question: What are Ukrainian libraries doing besides sheltering people in place during the war effort? Answer: They are making camouflage nets for the military.

Motion to adjourn was made by Salvadore Sepulveda and seconded by Alan Carman.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,

  
Scott Lindsey  
Board Secretary