



October 17, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Public Library commenced at 4:30 PM, Keith Mooney, Vice President, presiding.

Present: Keith Mooney, Renee Dietrich, Alan Carman, Salvadore Sepulveda, Chris Phillips, Patricia Bell, Zelda Yoder, Felix Pena, Sherry Cameron, Michel Micozzi, Nancy Campbell, Jennifer Bressler and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Dennis Skayhan, Ramona Turner Turpin, Scott Lindsay, Alba Fernandez, Excused

Guests: Linda Capozello

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the September minutes with correction was made by Alan Carman and seconded by Patricia Bell. Approved.

Treasurers Report: Chris Phillips said that the ARPA funds were posted and the scanner and other items have been ordered. Expenses are on target. We should not need to transfer any additional funds from our investments. Motion to accept the September Treasurer's Report was made by Zelda Yoder and seconded by Salvadore Sepulveda. Accepted.

Director's Report: Jennifer Bressler, Assistant Director reported on Melissa's behalf. Based on the new funding formula we will be receiving an increase of \$24,235 in state and county funding in 2023. The John Snyder trust is dissolving. Our portion of the remaining funds is estimated at \$41,952 and would continue to be used for the acquisition and preservation of scientific and language works. This week staff, patrons and volunteers will be planting daffodil bulbs around the library and branches to prepare for the City's 275th Anniversary. Fall flowers have been planted in the NW planters. Public works is working on restoring a water source to help with upkeep. Carl Long accepted the position of Librarian III in Tech Services and begins November 1. Mike Najarian's position will be posted October 21. The board has fulfilled the URR requirements of sending a minimum of two board members to a state or System sponsored CE event each year. Thank you to Alan and Felix for attending the recent training. The Plan for State Aid was distributed prior to the meeting.

Motion to approve the Plan for State Aid was made by Renee Dietrich and seconded by Alan Carman. Approved.

Library Services: Zelda Yoder reported that the committee met on September 29 and reviewed the library policies. Changes to policies were distributed prior to the meeting.

Motion to approve the changes to the Library Services Policy, Meeting Room Policy, ILL Policy, Collection Development Policy and Spanish Collection Development Policy was made by Zelda Yoder and seconded by Nancy Campbell. Approved. The Spanish translations will be reviewed for accuracy.

All remaining policies have been reviewed. Motion to approve the policies without corrections was made by Zelda Yoder and seconded by Salvadore Sepulveda. Approved. The Spanish translations will be reviewed for accuracy.

Facilities: Michel Micozzi reported they met at the Northeast branch on September 23 to review the scope of the work for the NE Meeting Room project. The contracts have been mailed. The building permit has been applied for and the city has waived the permit fees. The city will provide the dumpster. Options were discussed about adding a white board to the glass wall at the cost of \$4000. The project is estimated to be completed by mid January.

Finance: No Report

Personnel: Keith Mooney stated that the new tool for the 2023 review was emailed to Melissa today. Keith will send out a meeting date with committee members to discuss the 2022 goals. Alan Carman requested that the Finance committee be included.

Strategic Planning: No Report.

Advancement: Nancy Campbell reported another successful Cocktails and Classics this year. Thank you for the donations of wine. We grossed over \$146,500 and expenses were around 25%. The Fund In Need raised \$23,500 with the match of \$10,000 from the Foundation. Sponsorships totaled \$85,000 and we exceeded our ticket goal of 150 with 173. A newspaper article covering the event was posted the next day. The Marcus stock donation for the NE meeting room was received and sold in September. The grant for the Community Engagement Coordinator was applied for with the Wyomissing Foundation. David Koziuff agreed to chair our Annual Appeal. Our goal is \$40,000. Letters will be mailed November 7.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: BCPL sent an offer to each member library to consider going fine free permanently. Accepting the offer, each member library will receive a one time amount that can be used to waive prior fines and create amnesty and a fresh start for many patrons.

Motion to accept the BCPL offer to go permanently fine free was made by Zelda Yoder and seconded by Felix Pena. Accepted.

Alba Fernandez' term expires at year-end. The Library Company will be looking for a successor. Renee spoke about the need for board suggestions for members that can commit to the time and interest.

Zelda's trivia question: 2021 had the highest attempt in book bans. In 2022 through the end of August, how many unique titles have attempted to be banned? 1651.

Motion to accept the Nominating Committee members Zelda Yoder, Nancy Campbell, Keith Mooney and Dennis Skayhan as ex-officio was made by Alan Carman and seconded by Chris Phillips. Accepted.

The Board entered Executive session at 5:53 and exited at 6:00 PM.

Motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Campbell and seconded by Zelda Yoder. Approved.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,


Scott Lindsey
Board Secretary