



January 23, 2023

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

Present: Alan Carman, Chris Phillips, Renee Dietrich, Nancy Campbell, Michel Micozzi, Salvadore Sepulveda, Julia Becker, Zelda Yoder, Melissa Adams, Becky Wanamaker, Marissa Guidara, and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Ramona Turner-Turpin, Sherry Cameron, Keith Mooney, and Felix Pena. Excused.

Guests: Amy Resh

Public Comment: Renee Dietrich asked for a moment of silence for Paul Hoh, former Trustee for over 20 years, who passed away last week. Renee shared his obituary.

Minutes: Motion to approve the December 2022 minutes was made by Renee Dietrich and seconded by Zelda Yoder. Approved.

Treasurers Report: Chris Phillips reviewed the December 2022 year-end report. Although we did not receive the budgeted 200,000 from the City, we were able to make up for the loss of income. Our investments have taken a loss due to current market conditions but we hope to recover in 2023. Renee asked Amy Resh about an increase in county funding. Motion to accept the December 2022 Treasurer's report was made by Nancy Campbell and seconded by Salvadore Sepulveda. Accepted.

Director's Report: Melissa shared notes received from patrons praising the virtual yoga program. We have also received documentation naming the library in a lawsuit against the City of Reading and the Parking Authority. Jim Smith has been notified and we are hopeful that the city will be representing the library since the library building and surrounding land belongs to them. The Makerspace, which was the focus for last year's Cocktails and Classics is almost completed. We need additional ceiling tiles replaced and to purchase furniture. We hope to have it completed in the next month or two. Over the weekend, the front of the library was vandalized. The person responsible has been arrested. Public Works was by to clean up. Our banners were ripped and will need to be replaced. The scanner purchased with ARPA funds has been delivered. We are working on scheduling set up and training.

Becky Wanamaker provided her District report prior to the meeting. The annual state report is underway. The Office of Commonwealth Libraries has made several changes. Becky will provide support to libraries as needed. The District budget is being discussed due to the email migration costing less than anticipated. The committee is working on the Fiscal year 23/24 budget.

Library Services: No report. Zelda mentioned that the City of Reading is celebrating their 275th Birthday this year and that a big gala is scheduled for March 15 at the Reading Public museum. On March 16, several community birthday parties are planned around the city. The main library and branches will be participating and the City is providing cake.

Facilities: Michel Micozzi reported that the Northeast meeting room is at 95% completion. Technology will be installed at the end of January and beginning of February. A meeting with the painter is scheduled for tomorrow. Linda will be scheduling an open house in late March.

Finance. Chris Phillips reported that the committee met prior to the board meeting and discussed the 2023 goals and objectives.

Personnel: No Report.

Strategic Planning: No Report. The next meeting is scheduled on March 30 at 9 AM via Zoom.

Advancement: Nancy Campbell mentioned the launch of the new website and thanked Kimberly Servello for taking the reins on this project. The annual appeal goal of \$40,000 was exceeded. The Loyalty Society, which consists of members who have donated at least \$50 every year for five years were sent letters. Nancy asked board members to consider being a part of the Loyalty Society. Celebrity Bartender will be May 18 at Saucony Creek Franklin Station Brewpub. The committee is accepting suggestions for bartenders. Our goal is \$15,000. A cultivation event is in the works. There will be a meeting via Zoom on February 8. Cocktails and Classics is scheduled for September 29.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Trustees need to be appointed to serve a one-year term on the Foundation Board. Alan, Chris, Renee and Nancy have volunteered to serve.

Motion to nominate Alan Carman, Renee Dietrich, Chris Phillips and Nancy Campbell was made by Zelda Yoder and seconded by Salvadore Sepulveda.

Committee chairs for 2023 will remain the same. Renee Dietrich will be added to the Strategic Planning committee.

We need a new volunteer to attend the BCPL meetings that occur four times a year at 7pm at System HQ. Anyone that is interested can reach out to Alan Carman.

Zelda's trivia question: What American writer only accepted pipe cleaners as Christmas presents from family members? Answer: William Faulkner

Motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Campbell and seconded by Michel Micozzi. Approved.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,


Zelda Yoder
Secretary