



October 16, 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, Nancy Campbell, Renee Dietrich, Salvadore Sepulveda, Michel Micozzi, Kaitlin Daley, Keith Mooney, Felix Pena, Ramona Turner Turpin, Zelda Yoder, Melissa Adams and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Julia Becker, Sherry Cameron. Excused.

Guests: Marissa Guidara and Becky Wanamaker

Public Comment: None

Minutes: There was discussion regarding listing trustees and how they attend the meeting. The By-Laws state that if a trustee is unable to attend in person that they can make a request to the Board President to attend by electronic means and as long as both parties can hear, the trustee is counted as present. Additionally it was discussed that some boards specifically note who attend in person as well as by Zoom. Keith Mooney stated that some boards are required to do so because members need to be physically present to vote. Our By-Laws are not written to reflect that requirement. Instead of changing our By-Laws it was suggested that a motion could be made to change the current minutes. Nancy Campbell made the motion to correct the September minutes to show that Renee Dietrich attended via Zoom and Zelda Yoder seconded. Approved.

Keith Mooney made the motion to approve the corrected minutes, Renee Dietrich seconded. Approved.

Treasurers Report: Chris Phillips reported that we recently received \$225,000 from the county. We are still waiting on the District payment from the state. If the state funds are received and the budget allows we may be able to return the funds transferred from Investments. Our expenses are on track with what was budgeted for 2023. Motion to accept the September Treasurer's Report was made by Kaitlin Daley and seconded by Felix Pena. Accepted.

Director's Report: Melissa reported that a new roof and circulation desk were being installed at the NW branch via CDBG funds. The HVAC project at main is still underway. We are hoping to see the lead paint removal happen before the end of October, so that they can install the last two air handlers by the end of November. This does not include hooking up the gas line for the generator as that still needs to be done in conjunction with Shuman's project next door. The story walk posts have been installed at City Park. We will be completing the first book installation soon and having a grand opening.

Becky Wanamaker gave the District report. We were able to cover hotel rooms for 30 members from our district who attended the PaLa conference. The conference was a good experience and solid information was received. Marissa Guidara reported that the district had 75 patrons attend Berks Science Center to date. Renee Dietrich inquired about the Trustee List Serv. Becky stated that once it is up and running an email will go out.

Library Services: Zelda Yoder reported that several policies have been reviewed and will be sent out with plans to present for approval during the November meeting.

Facilities: Michel Micozzi met with Amy Johnson from HARB. It was determined that the committee did not need to review having the security camera mounted on the front of the Main Library that she is able to give the approval.

Finance: No Report. Chris Phillips stated that the committee will meet prior to the November meeting to review the proposed budget for 2024. Renee inquired about city personnel increases. Melissa stated that increases for union employees is outlined in their respective contract.

Personnel: No Report.

Strategic Planning: No report. Felix Pena stated he will plan a meeting before the end of the year.

Advancement: Nancy Campbell reported that to date we have received 326,344 in fundraising efforts. We are expecting another \$18,000 for Cocktails and Classics, \$50,000 from the Annual Appeal, \$85,000 from the Cameror-Shrier grant as well as funds for the Community Engagement grant. Additionally a grant for \$50,000 to use towards computers will be submitted. The committee expects to meet or exceed \$566,000 by year-end. Nancy also reported that Cocktails and Classics grossed 157,200, which was our best year yet with proceeds expected to reach \$116,000. Nancy also expressed her concerns regarding Linda Capozello resigning.

Renee Dietrich discussed a blind giving initiative and setting up an endowment with BCCF. We will need feedback from Melissa regarding the needs of RPL as well as categories we could set up for future giving.

The RPL Foundation is considering moving its investment funds to Tompkins Wealth Management from Morgan Stanley provided they would accept an account balance under 500,000.

Unfinished Business: Renee Dietrich mentioned we have board vacancies and members with terms expiring. She distributed to all trustees a self-report to show areas of expertise and areas of influence to be completed so that the board could determine areas of need.

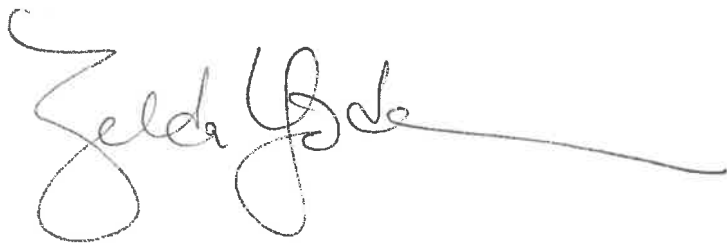
New Business: Alan Carman appointed Salvadore Sepulveda, Kaitlin Daley and Zelda Yoder to the Nominating Committee. Officers will be elected in January.

Trivia by Zelda: According to the Israeli Ministry for Culture and Sports, how many public libraries are there in Israel? Answer: 680.

Motion to adjourn was made by Keith Mooney and seconded by Salvador Sepulveda. Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,

Zelda Yoder
Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Zelda Yoder", followed by a long horizontal flourish line extending to the right.