



March 18, 2024

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

Present: Chris Phillips, Nancy Campbell, Renee Dietrich, Salvadore Sepulveda, Michel Micozzi, Kaitlin Daley, Felix Pena, Zeldá Yoder, Julia Becker, Anthony Orozco, Keith Mooney, Sherry Cameron, Jerry Richter, Melissa Adams and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Alan Carman, Warren Weik. Excused.

Guests: Marissa Guidara, Nathan Thomas and Carolyn Spano,

Public Comment: Introduction of Jerry Richter to the board.

Minutes: Motion to approve the February minutes was made by Salvadore Sepulveda and seconded by Chris Phillips. Approved.

Treasurers Report: Chris Phillips reported on the income and expenses and noted that \$70,000 had been transferred back into our investment account. Motion to accept the February Treasurer's Report was made by Renee Dietrich and seconded by Felix Pena. Accepted.

Director's Report: Nathan Thomas reported on our participation in the Pa Forward Star Program. Our programs are designed around the five literacies: basic information, information literacy, civic and social literacy, health and financial literacies. Currently we have ESL classes four times a week, we offer yoga, and this week we have a property tax rebate program, Commissioners Town Hall forum, as well as Tower Health's mobile mammogram unit and a PA Game Commission program on identifying local birds. Renee asked if we have any programs planned on cyber security. Melissa Haderlie has an artificial intelligence program scheduled in August.

Melissa Adams reported that we are hosting a Town Hall forum on Wednesday at 6:30 PM. Refreshments and free parking are provided. There are several solar eclipse programs planned and we have collaborated with the Reading Public Museum for a program at the planetarium. We will be closed on March 29th and 30th in observance of Easter.

Marissa Guidara reported on district events including finalizing a pilot program similar to their Community Play Dates program. Seven county libraries have expressed interest in participating including Main and Southeast.

Library Services: No Report. A meeting is scheduled April 2 at 5 PM to review the Collection Policy.

Facilities: Michel Micozzi reported that the camera at main has been installed. He met with Melissa and they discussed a feasibility study with the Orphans of Oddfellows regarding programming space on the third floor. We are seeking a five-year grant that would encompass cooking, textiles, manufacturing, building and repair.

Finance: No Report. Chris will schedule a meeting in April.

Personnel: The committee has reviewed Melissa's goals and has asked for an Executive Session after the next meeting.

Strategic Planning: Julia Becker stated the next meeting is scheduled on March 25 via Teams. She met with Melissa and Felix to see where we are with our goals and they are exploring a tuition reimbursement program.

Advancement: Carolyn Spano is making plans for a Cultivation event for some time in June. We have increased our activity on Facebook and other social media platforms. Our newsletter *PAGES* will drop at the end

of this week. We hope to roll out the endowment with BCCF by June. Celebrity Bartender is scheduled for May 15 at Saucony Creek Franklin Station Brewpub. All four bartenders have been confirmed and their campaigns are live. Cocktails and Classics is scheduled for September 27 at the Doubletree.

Unfinished Business: Renee Dietrich inquired about the RFP for a new attorney. Kaitlin will meet with Melissa and review what the library's needs are so they can be outlined in the RFP.

New Business: None

Zelda's Trivia. In honor of Women's History Month, what was the most circulated book in February at RPL and across all branches? Answer: The Vanishing Half. The most circulated female author was Colleen Hoover. The Theme of Library Week 2024 is Ready, Set, Library.

Motion to adjourn was made by Keith Mooney and seconded by Chris Phillips. Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,


Kaitlin Daley
Secretary