

Bethlehem Public Library Trustee Minutes – March 14th, 2022

Members Present: Doug Harman, Lisa Ffrench, Mike Culver, Barbara Szeidler, Len Grubbs; Rhienna Mischio and Tana LeClair attended virtually.

Librarian Present: Laura Clerkin

Meeting Commenced at 7:00pm.

Meeting Minutes

Barbara made a motion to accept the minutes as written; the motion was seconded by Len, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

This month's report states that the library budget is off significantly, due to the ARPA grant being added to the Equipment Expenses line. Laura will be using this grant money to purchase outdoor equipment. Once that is taken out, the library will actually be under budget by about \$1,200. A motion was made by Barbara to accept the report; the motion was seconded by Lisa, and passed unanimously.

Old Business

Two Board members received emails from Mary Polaski (from the Friends of the Bethlehem Public Library). The emails touched on a few subjects, including information about the group's intention to run for the Littleton Food Coop's Partner of the Month elections.

The library, as always, appreciates the support of the Friends of the Bethlehem Public Library. Laura will be reaching out to them to discuss the matter further.

The Board has not heard anything back from the energy commission about their solar panel initiative, but hope to hear more in the next month or two regarding their intentions with the library building.

The Board discussed altering the mask policy in the library building. Len made a motion to change the mask policy to optional, starting on March 15th, 2022. The motion was seconded by Barbara, and passed unanimously.

Committees

HR – Rewriting of policy about vacation time will be discussed and reviewed at the next meeting.

Finance – A motion was made to increase the nonresident library fee to \$70. The motion passed unanimously.

Mascoma Savings Bank’s Bethlehem branch is closing later this summer. Len plans to research local options for the library’s banking needs. He will share his findings at a later meeting.

Buildings and Grounds – Nothing to report.

Technology – Nothing to report.

Bylaws and Policies – Nothing to report.

Librarian’s Report

Sue Greenlaw, principal at Bethlehem Elementary School, attended the meeting virtually to discuss the possibility of utilizing the public library as the school’s library; this is due to space issues within the school building. The Board suggested that Principal Greenlaw would need to do some more research regarding the logistics of such a decision, and

Greenlaw will do so, with plans to attend next month's meeting with her findings.

The library received a letter from Ammonoosuc Valley Retirement Educators Association. They have donated \$1,214.60 to the library, to be used towards any children's programs or books. Kathy is looking into some ideas. Barbara made a motion to accept the donation, with Mike seconding, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Len made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36pm; the motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Tana LeClair