

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

March 12, 2018

In attendance were: Barbara Braun, Warren Harris, Robert Heyliger, Alfred Metz, Joanne Miano, Kathleen Scordato, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library, Abby Lundy, Liaison to Council

Excused: Marie Hanlon, Allen Saslowsky

Barbara Braun, President, called to order a meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Hillsdale, Bergen County, New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the newspaper of record, filed with the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Library's website and bulletin board, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting's Law.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM. The Board reviewed the February minutes. Ms. Scordato made a motion to accept the February minutes, Mr. Heyliger seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President's Report: Ms. Braun reported her attendance at the Makers Day event and expressed that the event was a success and that it was curious to see how the demographics of participants changes from year to year. This year fewer adults entered items. It was suggested that perhaps events like these could be tied into the strategic plan. Mr. Franz interjected that the Kids 4 Earth were specifically invited as partners this year. They conducted a seed starting workstation and the plants will later be used around the library property. There was a brief discussion about seed starting, seed libraries, continued relationships with the Sundial Garden Club, and community gardens in Hillsdale.

Ms. Braun recommended that the Board send an official letter of congratulations to the scouts that conduct their Eagle project at the library. Ms. Scordato will draft a letter for future use.

A discussion ensued regarding the flood insurance coverage. Mr. Franz presented alternative insurance rates based upon reductions in coverage and retention of the high deductible. Moving toward a self-insured plan could result in long term savings, however the upper limits of exposure need to be defined. It was suggested that an appraiser be contacted for this purpose. The library probably doesn't need the full coverage of its current policy, but more information is required before making a recommendation to the Borough Council.

Treasurer's Report: The first quarter support check was received. We are on budget so far this year. There were no questions regarding the check list.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz announced that he updated the annual report to reflect the installation of LED lighting. He inquired if there were any further recommendations for

revision before releasing the report to the public. There were none. The Board unanimously approved the report.

- Delivery: The BCCLS Executive Board approved a short-term contract for delivery to improve service while LibraryLink NJ transitions to their new vendor. Mr. Harris had sent a link to a recent article comparing the NJ contract with other statewide delivery contracts. New Jersey seems to be providing the service on the cheap and could be reason for its recent failure.
- The emergency plan was to be discussed with the Borough Safety Committee. The meeting was delayed due to snow.
- BCCLS is nearing the end of its Executive Director search. The three finalists will be present at a panel discussion. Mr. Franz is attending. A decision could be made within a week.
- Mr. Franz presented the request for banner sponsorship for the Baseball/Softball association. The library used the opportunity for publicity and town spirit last year, however, given the uncertainty of full budget funding, it is one thing that could be dropped this year. The Board concurred.
- A proposed draft of the strategic plan was distributed in February. Ms. Braun asked if a committee could review it, recommend edits and amendments, and report back. Mr. Harris, Mr. Heyliger, and Ms. Wertheim will form the committee.
- Mr. Franz may be unable to attend the June 11 meeting. The Board will consider changing the date if the conflict is assured.

The Friends: The annual membership / funding request letter was distributed to all postal patrons.

The next Library Board meeting will be on April 9, 2018. Ms. Wertheim moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Scordato. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Franz
Library Director