

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

April 8, 2019

In attendance were: Liz DiLorenzo, Marie Hanlon, Warren Harris, Al Metz, Joanne Miano, Allen Saslowsky, Carol Schepker, Kathleen Scordato, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library

Excused: John Ruocco, Mayor, Abby Lundy, Liaison to Council

Mr. Harris 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 7:32 PM. A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Ms. Scordato, seconded by Ms. DiLorenzo. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President's Report: Mr. Harris:

- ✚ Interviews were conducted over two evenings by the Foundation Committee. On behalf of said Committee, everyone was in favor of the six candidates to serve on the Foundation Board. Mr. Metz said the by-laws should state a minimum and maximum number of members to serve on this Board. These volunteers are all very qualified and have a deep interest in the well being of the Library; their resumés and cover letters were shared. Mr. Metz made a motion to have these six volunteers be appointed to the Foundation Board, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval. The trustees of the Foundation Board will serve staggered terms yet to be determined: Allen Saslowsky, Guy Mulè, Barbara Abolafia, Melanie Harada, Jeff Steinfeld, and Nayda Rondon. Mr. Harris received the by-laws from the attorney for further review. The Foundation tax ID is now on file. The 501(c)(3) designation paperwork has to be filed.
- ✚ The Borough budget, as introduced, would have funding for the Library remain flat, leaving a \$31,000 deficit in necessary income to cover expenses. Some expenditures for the library include: a \$9,760. incurred cost due to the new BCCLS delivery service, a \$2,300 increase for flood insurance, and \$5,581. allocated for the library collection development (which is lower than some neighboring libraries). Historically, the town paid the Library's pension costs and that changed in 2018; they increased our funding commensurate with that. However, it is now part of the Library's budget. There is also an increase to the minimum wage due in July. A lengthy discussion ensued as to where budget cuts could feasibly be made. Tapping into the cash reserve, and reducing Library hours on Sunday were some considerations. The budget is being introduced to the Council tomorrow night. Mr. Franz will call for a meeting with Mayor Ruocco and Ms. Lundy and additional Board members will attend. Mr. Metz stated that Mr. Franz should advocate for restoration of nearly \$18,000 coming from the new BCCLS delivery charge, salaries and fringe and the flood insurance.

✚ Mr. Harris acknowledged the new signage and thanked Mr. Franz for the designs and facilitating the installation. Mr. Franz sent pictures of the signs to the donors, the Gross Family. Gayle and Paul Gross do not wish to have a public recognition ceremony. Mr. Harris said that we should issue a press release about the sign. It is on the Library's Facebook page and has had numerous viewings and comments. Mr. Metz said we could have some type of public event as a way of introducing the establishment of the new Foundation.

✚ Mr. Harris deferred the rest of his comments to the general meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Metz: He had a question about the reserve cash assets. Donations have increased, i.e. donations for the notary services, the fax machine. Service contracts were somewhat larger; renewals for website addresses is one factor. Expenses were as budgeted.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

✚ Maintenance repairs to the tiles etc. were completed, trees were pruned. Improvement to the meeting room WiFi. Ted Talks with Dave were well received!

✚ Maker Faire had 9 entries; there was no prize money offered this year. The Hudson Valley Woodturners continued their participation.

✚ BCCLS is in a new office in Fair Lawn and is on target to roll out their delivery service in June.

✚ Mr. Metz asked about the Museum passes funded by *The Friends*, i.e. \$250 for the Grounds for Sculpture. Mr. Metz suggested not renewing this and let the Foundation consider assuming the Museum Passes as a possible service.

✚ Ms. Miano asked about the BCCLS sharing delivery system and everyone concurred that it was a service for all without charge to individual patrons. The Library provides basic equal service for all.

New Business: No new business.

The Friends: No one was present.

The next Library Board meeting will be on May 13, 2019. Ms. Hanlon moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary