

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

July 19, 2021

In attendance were: Judy Atchison, Mary DeChiara, Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Mary Disanza, Seth Griep, Warren Harris, Carol Schepker, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library

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

Mr. Harris called to order a virtual 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. Virtual meeting directions are appended below.

The virtual meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM. Ms. Wertheim suggested a revision to the wording of the Tool Shed Policy for the minutes; Mr. Franz will do that. A motion to approve the June 14, 2021 minutes, as amended, was made by Ms. Schepker, seconded by Ms. DeChiara. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President's Report: Mr. Harris: He deferred his comments to the general meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Franz summarized the financials on Mr. Metz's behalf.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- ThyssenKrupp: An additional \$1,000 maintenance fee for the elevator from 2020 appears in the 2021 budget.
- Woodcliff Lake memberships have increased.
- There will be a significant savings in the Salaries and Wages line due to previously limited hours, approximately \$20,000 - \$25,000.
- Some neighboring libraries still have limited evening hours. Mr. Franz envisions resuming library hours until 9 PM later this summer.
- Circulation is still down. The Library has spent less on collection development, but that will increase.
- The first and second quarterly checks were received from the Borough.
- The NJ Direct Install project was approved, and work will begin in the near future; there is no word yet from FEMA with regard to use of porous pavers.
- Summer Reading Program: 152 children are participating. Every child receives a canvas bag with their name embroidered on it and then the child can draw their own artwork on the bag. In the past, over 400 children participated, it had decreased to about 230, so Covid has had an impact as well as a possible decline in the reading culture.
- The first in-person art class with Deirdre was well received.

- 45 people attended the Author Talk by Shane Svorec. Interest in virtual programming is waning.

Mask Wearing: Library staff asked if they still have to wear a mask. Trustees discussed this and were in agreement that it isn't necessary unless one is unvaccinated. They affirmed that masks will remain required in the Children's Room. Policies vary among libraries. There are no longer time limits in our library.

Mr. Franz said that one parent stated that mask wearing should not be required in the Children's Room and Mr. Franz explained to her that he would share her concern with the Trustees.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris to amend the existing Covid policy to allow for optional mask wearing for vaccinated public and staff, except in the Children's Room where it will remain mandated. Ms. Schepker seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Mr. Franz said that Cindy Greenwald will be out on a leave for approximately 6 weeks.

The Gifts and Donations Policy and the Naming Policy: Mr. Harris stated that these policies are still in review with Mr. Zucker, attorney.

Building and Grounds: To be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Franz will incorporate that into the spending plan for the rest of the year.

Ms. Atchison asked about future programming; a number of programs are being added to our calendar. There will be a presentation on The Beatles on Mon. August 30th. The final virtual tour (St. Petersburg) will be on August 7th. The virtual tours have been well received. Ms. Schepker asked if any of these tours can be recorded; there is a fee for rebroadcasting. Funding came from The Foundation.

New business: No new business.

The Friends/The Foundation updates: No reports.

The next regularly scheduled virtual Library Board meeting will be on September 13, 2021. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary

Topic: Board of Trustees
Time: Jul 19, 2021 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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