

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

April 11, 2022

In attendance were: Judy Atchison, Mary DeChiara, Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Amanda Miller, Carol Schepker, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library, Janetta Trochimiuk, Liaison to Council

Excused: William Berde, Warren Harris, Al Metz

Ms. Schepker 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 7:35 PM. A motion to approve the March 14, 2022 minutes was made by Ms. Miller, seconded by Ms. Atchison. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President's Report: Ms. Schepker: It is important that our town residents are aware of all of the services our Library offers. She deferred the rest of her comments to the general meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Wertheim: Book sales, donations, fines and Woodcliff Lake memberships have increased. The fourth quarter 2021 Borough support check was received. Mr. Franz said that the total WL memberships are down slightly from pre-Covid, but membership renewals have increased over the past three months. Ms. Wertheim asked if the upcoming mailers could be sent to Woodcliff Lake residents. That is not feasible, but Mr. Franz said he could submit another article to the local newspapers about the benefits of a library membership for WL residents. Ms. Miller suggested that flyers about library offerings be put into the bags that will be given out at grocery stores in town.

Ms. DiLorenzo made a motion to approve the operating bill list, seconded by Ms. DeChiara. Unanimous vote of approval.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- The Borough allocation for the library budget was set at the minimum level again.
- Ms. Trochimiuk suggested promoting the library more, especially to parents with young children. Encourage patrons to speak at Council meetings. Ms. Miller suggested timelining this to see how and when to best promote the library.
- NJ Makers Day was on March 26th; the number of exhibits was down, but 222 visitors came throughout the day.
- NJ Health Connect provided the library with a free iPad so that patrons can connect with healthcare information and providers.
- Some graffiti was found on the exterior of the library; DPW will remove it. Mr. Franz reviewed film footage from existing library cameras and he will set up a permanent one outside. The perpetrators turned themselves in.

- Mr. Franz distributed his “wish list” to share with *The Friends* and The Foundation. Two flyers highlighting the library were also shared that will be mailed shortly to residents and businesses.
- Notary services are still in demand and are free.

Donor Wall: Mr. Franz shared a mock-up of wooden leaves to go onto a donor wall. \$250 would be the starting point for a donation. All donations benefit the library. Ms. Miller suggested adding a line in the mailers about corporate matching gifts. Future improvements would be to purchase new mesh chairs, remove the center island and recarpet that area.

Ms. DiLorenzo asked about promoting the library on social media sites. The library does this and Mr. Franz encouraged all to share posts as desired.

Ms. Danaher suggested displaying the painted rocks that were all over Hillsdale since the beginning of Covid. Host a “Hillsdale Rocks” day or display some in the glass cabinets.

Embroidered book-bags for newborns are advertised on the Library website.

Committees:

- By-laws: Mr. Harris, Mr. Metz, and Ms. Wertheim: No report given.
- Building & Grounds: Ms. Atchison, Ms. DiLorenzo, and Ms. Schepker: No report given.
- Budget: Mr. Berde, Ms. Miller, and Ms. Wertheim: They discussed the ease of using the *Square* device for taking credit card payments. Some transaction fees are involved. A detailed protocol would have to be written. Square offers a dashboard and charges can be categorized. Additionally, Mr. Franz is researching a device that will print out receipts.
- Strategic Plan: No report given.

New Business: The library will host the Access for All Art Show during the month of May. Mr. Franz would be happy to speak with Geraldine Beatty, chair of the 125th Hillsdale Anniversary organizing committee, to ensure the library is supportive.

The Friends/The Foundation updates: No report given.

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on May 9, 2022. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Wertheim, seconded by Ms. DiLorenzo. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary