

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

December 9, 2024

In attendance were: William Berde, Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Warren Harris, Amanda Miller, Kelly Pacor, Carol Schepker, Barbara Wertheim

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

Excused: Elizabeth Leonard, Jonna Davis (Mayor's Alternate)

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 7:38 PM. A motion to approve the November 11, 2024 minutes was made by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Wertheim. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was in attendance.

President's Report: Ms. Schepker: This has been a fantastic year for the Library. This is her last meeting as President and she expressed her sincerest thanks to all of the staff and Trustees. She looks forward to her continued participation with the Library in other ways. The Children's Room programming is progressing nicely.

A nominating committee needs to be formed. Ms. Schepker and Ms. Wertheim will be stepping down from their positions as President and Treasurer. Mr. Harris, Ms. Schepker and Ms. Wertheim volunteered to serve on this committee; a proposed slate of officers for 2025 will be presented at the January meeting. Mr. Franz thanked Ms. Schepker and Ms. Wertheim for their strong leadership roles.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Wertheim: All checks are to the usual vendors. WL memberships, book sales, fines and other normal revenue generating areas are all up. Utility expenses were down.

Ms. Wertheim made a motion to accept the operating bill list as presented, seconded by Ms. Miller. Unanimous vote of approval.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- A CD of \$15,000 is coming due from Provident Bank with a 13-month term. He recommends rolling it over. \$42,700 is in a different account. Board members recommended examining interest rates.
- For 2025, The Foundation will fund approximately \$20,00 - \$25,000 for programming.
- A lovely thank you note was received from a teacher and class from Smith School.
- AARP will be hosting tax preparation sessions on select Tuesdays from 10-3 in the reading room. The library will host these meetings as one of the only sites in this area of Bergen County. They will assist individuals with their income tax preparation. Individuals need to register, pick

up a packet, arrange for an appointment, and upon completion, taxes can be submitted electronically. Ms. Schepker asked about the Fair Lawn Library's experience as they previously hosted and he will check on that.

- Mr. Franz and Cindy are Notaries; their services are free and they receive daily requests.
- Current programming data was shared.
- The children's ceramics class registration filled within ten minutes. Cindy will announce when the registration portal will open for future workshop registrations.
- The Freedom to Read Act was signed today by Gov. Murphy. The Hillsdale Library already has a Collection Development Policy. He explained some of the new law's parameters.
- Baker & Taylor and Ingram are book distributors, but Mr. Franz also uses Amazon. Due to publisher negotiations and other factors, there have been noticeable delays in shipping from Ingram and Baker & Taylor.
- Book Sanctuaries help to be more protective of collections. A library signs up for this and has to meet selective criteria.
- 45 of the library survey respondents requested library swag. 10 numbers were randomly selected to receive them.
- Pending approval of the library's proposed budget, Mr. Franz plans to provide Sunday library services from 1:00 – 4:00 with 3 staff members.

The Friends/The Foundation: No reports given.

New Business: None

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on January 13, 2025. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Schepker, seconded by Mr. Harris. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary