

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

November 11, 2024

In attendance were: William Berde, Elizabeth DiLorenzo, Warren Harris, Elizabeth Leonard, Amanda Miller, Kelly Pacor, Carol Schepker, Michael Sheinfeld (Mayor)

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

Excused: Jonna Davis (Mayor's Alternate), Barbara Wertheim

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 7:33 PM. A motion to approve the October 21, 2024 minutes was made by Ms. DiLorenzo, seconded by Mr. Berde. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was in attendance.

President's Report: Ms. Schepker: She hoped that all Trustees read the results of the town library survey. We should be very proud of Mr. Franz and the Library staff. There will be a discussion of the draft budget this evening. She deferred the rest of her comments to the general meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Franz on Ms. Wertheim's behalf: All checks are to the usual vendors. WL memberships, fines and other normal revenue generating areas are all up.

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

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- He is helping prepare *The Friends of the Library* mailer. Volunteers will be needed shortly to fold them.
- Garbarini conducted a two-day audit and there were no findings. Next year, there will be a new auditor.
- The draft 2025 budget was submitted to the Borough Finance Council.
- Christina Metz and Kamila Sanchez were hired to work part time in the Children's Room.
- There is an opportunity for Trustees to attend a workshop on fine-free libraries. Ms. Trochimiuk asked if fines were eliminated, how would that revenue be made up? It would have to come from other line items. Mr. Franz presented some statistics on fines vs. fine-free items as they circulate in BCCLS.
- Mr. Ron Miller made a \$1,000 donation.
- The Library was featured on the cover of Pascack Press twice in the past month.

- Survey: He is encouraging all Trustees to read the entire survey. Overarching themes are that patrons want more programs, both for children and adults, and a desire for the library to be open on Sundays.

Budget: Salaries. If the library were to be open on Sundays, Sunday hires would be at time and a half rate. The library was previously open 1 - 4 PM on Sundays. There is also a need for a part-time technology teen librarian to also direct teen programming. \$15.49 is the new minimum wage effective 1-1-25. Ms. Miller asked what *The Friends* could contribute. *The Friends* tend to underwrite special projects; they meet quarterly. Major capital projects are another need.

Closed session: A motion was made by Ms. Schepker at 8:15 PM to move into closed session to discuss salaries, seconded by Ms. Miller. Unanimous vote of approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Harris at 8:29 PM to go back into open session, seconded by Ms. Schepker. Unanimous vote of approval.

Mr. Berde made a motion to accept the budget as shared at the October meeting, seconded by Mr. Harris. Salary increases were agreed upon. Sundays would be open from 1- 4 PM once part-time staffing is found. A part-time technology teen librarian was also approved.

The Friends/The Foundation: No reports given.

New Business: 2025 meeting dates were discussed, moving a number of the meetings to the third Monday of the month. A motion was made by Ms. DeLorenzo to approve the meeting dates as follows, seconded by Ms. Miller. Unanimous vote of approval. 1-13, 2-24, 3-17, 4-21, 5-19, 6-16, 7-21 and 8-18 (optional), 9-15, 10-20, 11-17, 12-8.

The next regularly scheduled Library Board meeting will be on December 9, 2024. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Leonard. Unanimous vote of approval. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary