

Old Forge Library
Board of Trustees
January meeting: January 14, 2021

Present:

Dave Berkstresser, Mary Ellen Denio, Kirsten Down, Judy Ehrensbeck, Kelly Hunkins, Don Kelly, Mona Lincoln, Liz Lorentzsen, Joseph Rintrona, Kathy Rivet, and Linda Weal

Absent:

Jennifer Hartsig

Meeting called to order:

5:30 PM by Kirsten Down

Approval of minutes from last meeting:

Motion made by Kelly Hunkins
Seconded by Mary Ellen Denio
Approved

Approval of treasurer's report:

Motion made by Don Kelly
Seconded by Joe Rintrona

Approved and entered into the minutes

***Finance Committee will meet in the coming weeks to draft a budget for 2021 and make recommendations regarding hiring an accountant or bookkeeper to assist the Treasurer with some of the more intense tasks, such as income tax filing.

Director's report:

- Linda still meets weekly with other Mid York directors via zoom.
- Not as many donations from the Wish List as previous years, so Linda will order those books and items that haven't been purchased by the end of the month.
- Zoom craft nights continue to be well received. Plans for them to continue through the winter.
- We have added additional hours and are now open from 10-2 on Mondays.
- Bookmark is at the printers to be published and will be sent out as soon as possible.
- Linda wrote to our state senate on behalf of the library staff to advocate for them to be considered as educators for the COVID-19 vaccine. Much advocacy regarding this and it looks like they will be able to be part of the 1b phase.
- The Friends are willing to purchase a dog waste station for the library. They will allocate up to \$500, and would like input from the Board as to what type they would like.
- Hoopla has been well received since we have purchased an independent account. There has been a steady number of users.

Old Business:

- Joe DeShaw fixed the leak in the boiler, so we should not have any more spikes in our water bill.
- A survey has been shared with the public regarding our 5-year plan. Will continue to receive responses through February.
- Our nonprofit status has been approved and has a retroactive date, so we should be able to move forward with regards to fundraising and grant submissions. We have also reinstated our status with the Community Foundation, so donations should be released to us shortly.

New business:

- There continue to be new regulations from the state regarding full transparency for public

libraries. We need to add more information to our website to be compliant. We already have many of the mandatory items, and will continue to add them as they are available.

- Linda met with Glenn and Jeanne Candee to discuss the bricks that would surround the new flagpole. After much discussion, they have recommended that talking with members of the American Legion who have had a similar fundraising endeavor. They have also brought forth the idea of marble benches that could serve as a naming opportunity for the library grounds instead of wooden benches. The Buildings and Grounds Committee will consider all of the suggestions and bring recommendations to the Board.
- It has been recommended that the Board consider asking for a slight increase in the tax levy each year, or every few years, rather than seeking a large increase after several years. The Board agreed, and will begin to seek slight increases after this year.
- Liz recommended adding a high school student to the Board as a way to engage younger library users.
- Don Kelly has announced that he will not be serving another term as a Trustee. The Nominating Committee will seek a replacement for him to be named at the Annual Meeting in February.
- On a motion from Mona Lincoln, seconded by Kathy Rivet, the Board unanimously approved the Finance Policy as proposed by the Finance Committee.

Adjournment at 6:55 PM:

Motion made by Mona Lincoln

Seconded by Joe Rintrona

Approved

Next meeting:

February 11, 2021 following the Annual Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Ehrensbeck
Recording Secretary
January 14, 2021