MINUTES
VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
9 DECEMBER 2024

Attending: President Sarah Brunt, VP Marielle McKasty-Stagg, Georgia Gray, Linda Conway, Laura Lamberton, and Sarah Clark, clerk
Remote Access:
Excused:
Others Attending: Tracey Pause, Lynn Kohler
Call to Order: 7:35 p.m.
Public Comments: None

MOTION (GG) SECOND (LC) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ACCEPT THE OCTOBER 28, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Sarah C. reported that she has access to cost per circulation numbers for print vs. digital checkouts for 2023, as well as pre and post covid circulation numbers. Our costs per circ were slightly higher for physical materials, which is something to consider during materials budget development. Although our physical circulation declined, which is the trend, due to the steady increase in digital content, our circulation as a whole went up. The board discussed this, and what impact it may have on the distribution of the next year's budget.
Sarah C. reported that staff development day went well. The Underground Railroad Museum was very interesting, and we all learned a lot about abolitionists and the fight to help enslaved peoples. The afternoon was cancelled by EAP, as they were in lockdown. Staff was asked to do the mandatory sexual harassment training online.
Sarah C. asked the board for input on whether the library should discontinue Twitter and create a Bluesky account instead. The board was happy with this change.
Sarah C. shared that the construction project is moving along nicely. The moving company will be here Monday, Dec. 16 to put the children's collection back in place. This will require the library to be closed to patrons until 4pm. Curbside service will be available from 9:30 am to 4pm. The board agreed it is a safety issue and curbside is appropriate.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Nothing to report.

TREASURERS REPORT

MOTION (MMS) SECOND (LC) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ACCEPT THE OCTOBER 31, 2024 TREASURERS REPORT OF $13,353.51 IN THE OPERATING ACCOUNT, $2,119,832.89 IN THE MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT, $57,877.98 IN THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT, $22,590.50, IN THE DONATION ACCOUNT, $1,977.25 IN THE DEBIT CARD ACCOUNT.

WARRANTS

MOTION (MMS) SECOND (GG) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT WARRANT 4A, 5, 5A AND 6 (OCTOBER 25, 2024 – DECEMBER 5, 2024). THE WARRANT IS FILED WITH THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Sarah C. reported that she had worked on integrating pieces of the Equity Challenge into the strategic plan, but did not have anything new to report.

FOL

Tracey reported the Friends of the Library did not meet in December. Since they are not holding a winter boutique this year, the Friends are holding a bake sale and raffle. There are 18 raffle baskets displayed in the foyer, with tickets on sale until December 15. The bake sale will be held December 14 & 15 and the raffle drawing will be held the 16th. The next meeting for the Friends will be January 6.

EQUITY COMMITTEE

Tracey and Sarah C. reported that we are making progress with our equity goals. Tracey reported that, while some libraries are using past policies/programs as goal attainment, here at Voorheesville, we are striving to reach new goals to entrench diversity, equity and inclusion into our library and surrounding community. The board discussed this and agreed that we need to be extending our goals, not resting on past accomplishments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: N/A
Personnel: N/A
Facilities: N/A
Policy: N/A
Local History Committee: N/A

The trustees discussed perhaps combining committees, or pre-scheduling meetings periodically throughout the year, to give everyone involved a better grasp of what the commitment will be. This will be discussed further, as no decisions have been made.

OLD BUSINESS

Sarah C. reported that the change to the charter has been completed. The term for future trustees will be 3 years.

Linda reported that she is still looking into possibilities for the 78 Prospect property. The library would like to use the property for the betterment of the community, if at all possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Sarah B. brought up the possibility of incorporating a book sanctuary resolution into our policy, procedure and/or mission statement. She explained this could help ensure that the trustees, director/asst director and librarians would retain ultimate discretion for the library collection. The trustees asked many questions and discussed this idea. It was decided this would be included on the January agenda to be discussed further.

The next regular meeting of the board will be Monday, January 27 at 7 p.m.
MOTION (LC) SECOND (GG) PASSED UNANIMOUS: TO ADJOURN AT 8:15 P.M.