



Raritan Public Library

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May 19, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ron Rispoli, Board President. R. Rispoli read a statement that the meeting was duly publicized (including notices which were sent to the Courier News and the Star Ledger) and that the meeting was called pursuant to provisions from the Open Public Meeting Law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: R. Rispoli, B. Doorly, S. Forte, J. Boyle, K. Seifert-Ethier, A. Goetsch, A. M. Mead, J. Fidacaro, Mayor Alternate and M. Paese, Director. Absent: R. Zack. R. Rispoli welcomed Jane Fidacaro as the Mayor's alternate. R. Rispoli led the flag salute.

MINUTES:

April 21st Meeting: A. M. Mead made a motion to approve the minutes from April 21st, S. Forte seconded the motion and all approved with the exception of J. Fidacaro who abstained.

April 21st Executive Meeting: A. M. Mead made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 21st Executive Meeting, S. Forte seconded and all approved with the exception of J. Fidacaro who abstained.

May 9th Special Meeting: S. Forte made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 9th Special Meeting, B. Doorly seconded and the roll call was taken. S. Forte, B. Doorly, A. Goetsch, and R. Rispoli approved; J. Boyle, K. Seifert-Ethier, A.M. Mead, and J. Fidacaro abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A. M. Mead made a motion to approve the May bills and capital expenditures, J. Boyle seconded and all approved with the exception of J. Fidacaro who abstained.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Director presented the Trustees with positive information on the DLNJ (Digital Library of New Jersey) and a list of the libraries which presently belong to the e-book consortium. The Board reviewed the contract and B. Doorly made a motion to approve our library joining the DLNJ. A. Goetsch seconded the motion; all approved with the exception of A. M. Mead, who abstained.

On May 18th, Kristen Brooks gave a 40 minute power point presentation on the history of our Library to 105 third graders at JFK School.

The Director reported that, at the NJLA Conference in Atlantic City, she attended classes on identifying core services, on weeding of materials and on privacy issues in libraries. The Director found our Library in line with other small libraries in New Jersey with regard to what services are offered and how they measure success.

The Director mentioned that the Trustees need to register annually for 7 combined hours of continuing education so that the Library can apply for State Aid. The New Jersey State Library offers free Trustee webinar classes which the Trustees can take to fulfill their CE credits.

J. Boyle stated that JFK School postponed the 3rd grade class trip to our Library until next year due to safety issues involving construction in the back of the building.

Upcoming Adult Programs:

Thursday, June 9th: Adult Movie Night: Academy Award nominated film “Brooklyn” will be shown.

Saturday, June 18th: The “Friends” will be running their annual book sale.

Saturday, June 25th: Deb Lawton is teaching another class on creating a dichroic pendant.

Thursday, June 30th: The Library is hosting a program on Aroma Therapy.

This year’s Summer Reading Program is “On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!” The kick-off date for Children, Teens and Adults is on June 29th.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Status of Library Expansion: A contract was signed by Edge Property Management and a pre-construction meeting took place on May 13th. The staff needs to move out of their offices before June 20th.

Buy-A-Paver Program: R. Rispoli learned that the Contractor is responsible for purchasing the pavers. The Library only needs to pay the engraving fee. The sale of pavers will end soon.

Status of the Library Electrical System: The Borough has committed to taking care of the repair and a contractor has been hired to do the project.

Handicapped Railings: The new railings will be installed soon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: K. Seifert-Ethier revisited three main goals of the Library’s strategic plan and identified the individuals responsible for the action items. R. Rispoli recommended re-inviting the Borough Council to meet with the Trustees at the Library. The Board agreed to discuss points before approaching the Council with an invitation.

J. Boyle mentioned, as part of the outreach goal, that the kindergarteners were planning to visit the Library on June 3rd. A plan is also under way for connecting with the ESL students at JFK.

B. Doorly remarked that e-newsletters are distributed to over 700 e-mail addresses. He is writing an article for the July edition of the Breeze featuring the historic documents at our Library.

RESOLUTION: Ron Rispoli read a budgeted expenditure sheet for interior finishes for the library addition. The Board President created a resolution 2016-05-006 regarding the budgeted expenditures. A. M. Mead made a motion to approve the resolution, B. Doorly seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

B. Doorly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm, J. Boyle seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16th at 7:00 pm.