



# Raritan Public Library

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November 17th, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm by R. 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, R. Zack, A. Goetsch, K. Seifert-Ethier, J. Fidacaro, M. Pryll (7:07pm) and M.J. Paese, Director.  
Absent: A. M. Mead.

R. Rispoli led the flag salute.

MINUTES: B. Doorly made a motion to accept the minutes from the regular October 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, J. Fidacaro seconded the motion. All approved except S. Forte and K. Seifert Ethier who abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: S. Forte made a motion to approve the November bills including Capital expenses, K. Seifert-Ethier seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Director reported that monies are being collected to purchase a paver and a shrub/tree for the Library's new garden area in memory of Beth Bezek. Anyone, wishing to donate, can do so at the Library.

The Director stated that in spite of construction, power outages and periods when the internet has been down, the Library has maintained its schedule of programming. Last week, the Library hosted back-to-back programming with a Native American program on one night and an American Historical Theatre presentation on the next. A special guest, New Jersey Assemblyman Erik Peterson, attended the Theatre program.

## Upcoming Programs/Events:

Beginning December, Raritan Library will be hosting a matinee movie each month in addition to the night viewing. The matinee movie is geared to Seniors who do not want to drive at night.

**Thursday December 1st:** Michele Liana will present a second class on making a deco mesh candy cane wreath.

**Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>:** The Library is showing the Holiday film "A Christmas Carol" with George C. Scott at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

**Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>:** Food historian, Judith Krall-Russo will present a special program on a Colonial/Victorian Christmas.

A patron requested that the newsletter be e-mailed to him; particularly the children's monthly newsletter. B. Doorly stated he would add the children's newsletter link to his e-blast.

The Director reported that monies have to be moved by resolution to increase budgeted program expenditures.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Status of Library Expansion: R. Rispoli reported that the new addition is within 30 days of completion. Pavers have been installed in the garden area. The Library needs to get quotes for designing and landscaping the new outdoor area. The Board discussed the possibility of a butterfly garden and contacting Duke Gardens and RVCC for ideas.

R. Rispoli mentioned that a "Grand Opening" celebration for the addition should be held in the new year.

Status of the Library Electrical System: The new service will be completed within the next few days.

The Borough will replace the flagpole in the front yard which was damaged during excavation.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** K. Seifert-Ethier reviewed the Strategic Plan Spreadsheet (goals, tactics, and outcomes/asures). The Board discussed having the meeting with the Borough Council in the first quarter of 2017 in the newly finished community room. K. Seifert-Ethier made a draft highlighting the Board's discussion points and will send it to the Trustees.

J. Fidacaro suggested creating displays and showcasing books in correlation to a particular study of students at JFK School. This would help connect the Library to the schools. J. Fidacaro also spoke about the "Friends" participation in the RiverFest Event in September.

The Director suggested the Board look into new technology, i.e hoopla, apps, etc. in the new year.

B. Doorly stated that he and A.M. Mead will be purchasing the new computer station monitor at Best Buy. B. Doorly is working on putting the content on the kiosk. The computer station desk should be 24" x 30".

**OLD BUSINESS:** Regarding the Lease Agreement, the Library is waiting for the revision to the existing document.

**RESOLUTION:** R. Rispoli read a resolution to transfer \$1,000 from the operating budgeted category of Furnishings to Program Account. S. Forte made a motion to approve the Resolution, A. Goetsch seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

S. Forte made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm, R. Zack seconded and the Board unanimously agreed to end the meeting.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.