



Raritan Public Library

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September 21, 2017

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, K. Seifert-Ethier, B. Doorly, J. Fidacaro, C. Torres, M. Pryll, A. M. Mead, and M.J. Paese, Director. Absent: S. Forte and A. Goetsch.

R. Rispoli led the flag salute.

MINUTES: A. M. Mead made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 20th, 2017 Board Meeting, K. Seifert-Ethier seconded the motion and a roll call was taken. All trustees approved except R. Rispoli and C. Torres who abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A.M. Mead made a motion to approve the September bills including Capital expenses, C. Torres seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Director reported that B. Sferra would be having heart surgery. Therefore, he will most likely be out of work for several months. His niece, who works for him, has agreed to clean the Library while he is recuperating.

The Director reported that the Estate of Dorothy Reynolds is close to being settled. R. Rispoli had to sign papers which were mailed to the Executrix.

Sammi Sherwin is retiring and leaving her position on September 27th and Teresa Chen will be replacing her. Sammi trained Teresa in both of her positions at the Library.

The "Friends of the Raritan Library" offered to pay for a new museum pass program to the Frick Collection Museum in New York City.

The Director presented the revised Patron Policy to the Trustees, which included an addendum (addition of a gift policy) and changes to current rules on tutoring in the Library. A roll call was taken and the Board voted unanimously to the addition and changes to the Policy.

The Director is working on getting a price to replace the carpeting in the Circulation Room. In this area, the carpet is showing the most wear. Luckily, the same wool carpet is still available.

The Director handed out instructions on creating an account for the online Library catalog. This will enable cardholders to now renew items online.

Upcoming Programs/Events:

Saturday, September 23rd: The Belle Tones Concert in conjunction with John Basilone Parade Weekend

Sunday, September 24th: John Basilone Museum open to the public with special displays

Thursday, September 28th: Adult Movie Night: Zelig (Woody Allen Film)

Tuesday, October 3rd: Movie Matinee: The Shack (book-based film)

Thursday, October 5th: College Application Workshop

Thursday, October 12th: Raritan's Distinguished Series: Dr. Edgar Flint

Saturday October 14th and Sunday October 15th: Somerset County Weekend Journey through the Past including a musical performance by members of the Early American Music and Arts

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: R. Rispoli reported that new sod has been installed and that the Library premises are looking very nice. He also mentioned that the snow removal agreement needs to be renewed with the Borough.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: K. Seifert-Ethier stated that a Strategic Plan wrap up session with Suzan Globus will take place at next month's Board Meeting. K. Seifert-Ethier read through the Strategic Plan Summary with its four goals, their objectives and outcomes.

B. Doorly reported that he will be sending out a Children's newsletter e-blast. Bruce also wrote an article about the local inventor, Alfred Pierfederici, who was the first presenter in the Distinguished Series.

Scanning of the old Raritan Valley Newspapers (1948 and other years) remains a future project.

OLD BUSINESS: The Board reviewed the Capital Expense Plan. B. Doorly made a motion to approve the Plan, M. Pryll seconded the motion and the roll call was unanimous. The Director would notify the Library's auditor, Nisivoccia of the Board's approval.

NEW BUSINESS: J. Fidacaro expects to bring an update on the Library's statistics to a Borough Council Meeting in November or December.

J. Fidacaro made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm, A.M. Mead seconded and the Board unanimously agreed.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday, October 19th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.