

Subject: Minutes from the UDPL Board Meeting on Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Attendance: Library Director Cheri Fiory, President Janine Buesgen, Secretary Andrea Merrick, and members, Gary Fisher, Suanne Strauss, and Joan Ryder Ludwig were all present. Treasurer Wendy Rader and member Cathy Murphy participated by telephone.

The meeting was conducted in person at the Library.

President Buesgen called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Welcome

President Buesgen welcomed all in attendance.

One member of the public was present.

Consent Agenda Items:

There being no objection, the Board moved, seconded, and approved the following items:

- (a) Minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting**
- (b) Financial Reports for September and October 2021**
- (c) Librarian’s Reports for September and October 2021**

Given the recent tornado and impact on the Township Building and operations, the Financial Reports for September and October are delayed and not available at the time of this meeting. The consent agenda was accepted noting this change.

Four items were brought to the attention of the board. First, President Buesgen spoke about the rebuild your bookshelf campaign to provide children’s books to families impacted by the tornado and in need of replenishing lost/damaged books. There will be private appointments available for families as well as an open house November 20, 2021 from 10:30-4:00 for families to come and browse and pick out books.

Second, Director Fiory advised that the library will be hosting mental health support sessions with clinicians to provide assistance to children and adults who are impacted by the tornado.

Third, the Board of Commissioners approved the lease for McLINC to be a tenant at 520 at the October 2021 BOC meeting.

Fourth, the police will be holding an open house on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 to meet and greet the public.

Public comment: There was no public comment.

Discussion items:

- a) Building/Reopening Plan- Hours, Priorities**

Director Fiory advised that the timeline has been expanded with phasing in of more hours, which is now up to 57 hours/week. She anticipates 65 hours/week in 2022 if the budget is approved. Patron visits are

increasing though borrowing is at about 80% of normal. Programs are almost back to normal through there are lots of virtual participants. There was a comment that the recorded programs were not so easy to find on the website.

a. 2022 programming- Civic Engagement

Director Fiory indicated that she hopes to have more long term programming in 2022 especially for adults such as the PA Forward initiative from the PALA on literacy.

The theme for this upcoming year will be civic and social engagement. Director Fiory shared a flyer on the topic and the group discussed the variety of ways the library can support and promote activities to educate the citizenry about local government. (Such as hosting a program with the police department that is now housed within 520.) Tours, town halls and Q&A opportunities were noted as possible activities.

A suggestion was made to have some boards members brainstorm with Director Fiory and staff. Ideas included programs on what the courts/judiciary do, inviting Michael Smerconish as a speaker, engaging with the (Marge) Rendell Center for Civic Engagement which includes 18 services areas including civic engagement.

b) Friends Update

Cathy Murphy reminded everyone of the upcoming Friends annual meeting and the number of people needed to attend to have a quorum. The Friends income is starting to increase given return of the book sale and a donation from Kiwanis. At the moment they have \$91K in operating funds. It was noted that Treasurer Jo-Ann Hunt is now participating in the Capital Campaign. Letters have been mailed out for the Friends annual campaign for membership. The recent jewelry sale brought in \$4219 this year. Director Fiory provided an update to the Friends and President Buesgen spoke about restocking the Friends' bookshop as items are sold. The Friends have rescheduled the Thank You Event to April 29, 2022. The new by-laws have been approved and will uploaded to the Friends' website. The conflict of interest policy is being reviewed and updated, as needed. The Friends November meeting will be held on November 11, 2021 at 1 PM.

c) Capital Campaign Update

Director Fiory reported that the current goal is to make new connections and reach out to more potential donors. The challenge is making these connections and having people understand the Library and its services. The endeavor to obtain donors for quotes is near complete. There is an effort to improve signage to showcase contributors.

d) COVID 19 Policy

No changes are being made to the policy though mandatory mask wearing may be revisited down the road. There is no requirement that patrons be vaccinated in order to enter the library.

e) 2022 Draft Budget

Director Fiory said she had no new comments to raise about the upcoming budget discussion. She is hoping that more hours will be approved for next year but if not, then \$30K may be reduced from the budget for Sunday hours.

Action Items:

a) Words of Wisdom Quotes

A quote was presented, no issues were raised and after a motion and seconding, it was unanimously approved.

b) Additional Naming Opportunities

The document was reviewed, discussed and a motion was made, seconded and it was unanimously approved.

c) Lobby Bulletin Board Policy

The policy was updated but is essentially the same. A motion was made, seconded and the policy was unanimously approved.

d) Materials Use Policy

The policy was cleaned up to eliminate/clarify references to fines, video games and overdue items. A motion was made, seconded and the policy was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

The next Library Board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Andrea Merrick

Andrea Merrick

An executive session was held at the close of the scheduled meeting.