

HACKETTSTOWN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
September 11, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.

With Mrs. Mayberry presiding, the meeting was opened by reading the Resolution concerning meetings of the town of Hackettstown for 2023. Adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Trustees has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act (P.L. 1975, c.231).

Present: Mr. Galante, Ms. Munson, Mrs. Mayberry, Mrs. Lobby,,
Mrs. Bahnuk, Mrs. Marlowe

Absent: Mr. Bristow, Mr. Hirshberg

Floor Open To Public: The floor was opened at 7:00.

After the flag salute and roll call, the meeting continued at 7:02. One member of the public, Christina Meliski, was in attendance. She had two concerns. First, she asked if the library could get The Wall Street Journal. She has reservations about possible bias in the New York Times and the Star-Ledger. The Director informed her that this would be discussed later in the meeting. Her second issue had to deal with tax revenue. She would like more money from local taxes to go to the Library. The Director informed her that is a topic to discuss with the Town Council.

Approval Of Minutes: The minutes could not be approved because not enough people who could ascertain the veracity of them were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: The August report was discussed. Two large purchase orders were written this month.

- Baker & Taylor for \$1,691.06
- Nisivoccia LLP (auditor) for \$3,600.00

Circulation and patron visits are up. There are an abundance of donations. One patron purchased a membership in order to use Libby. Bahnuk motioned to accept the August Treasurer's Report, the two large purchase orders and to pay the bills. Lobby seconded. Roll call vote Bahnuk - yes Lobby - yes Marlowe - yes Mayberry - yes Munson - yes Motion carried.

Correspondence: Mrs. Lobby submitted a letter of resignation from the Board, effective at the end of the year.

Director's Report

- Fiscal Year 2022 was officially closed out and \$487.01 in leftover funding was returned to the Library checking account.
- The extra funds for fringes in 2023, \$3606.84, was also added into the Library's Operating Expenses.
- MAIN is adding digital access to the Wall Street Journal in January. In addition, the Library has received a good deal on the print edition.
- The Director will be officially appointed to his position and finished; with the Civil Service process In September.
- Michaela needs to cut back on her hours. The Director has posted a position to fill them.
- The Director joined the Open Book Task Force through MAIN to prepare the book challenge process.
- Debra from Wyrd Lily would like to partner with the Library for some fundraising.
- Joe Fisher at Man Skirt will be fundraising with the Library in October. During Booktoberfest, a percentage of each beer will benefit the Library.

- The Library received 5 free hotspots from Wharton Library. Internet access is paid until April.
- Summer Reading has officially ended. All prizes have been picked up. This year it seemed as if more adults and teens participated.

Committees Nothing to discuss

Old Business

The Director does not want a stipend to cover his trip to DC.

New Business Bahnuk motioned to take the new funds (\$3606.84) applied from fringes and distribute them in the following manner: \$2000 to the ebooks budget line, \$1000 into the book budget, \$506.84 into library supplies and an additional \$100 towards the auditor. Mayberry seconded. . Roll call vote Bahnuk - yes Lobby – yes Marlowe – yes Mayberry – yes Munson – yes Motion carried.

The Board needs to look at some policy wording. On a Saturday, a patron entered the library with a large knife. He quickly exited, but later returned. A staff member felt uneasy, so the police were called. The Police spoke with the staff member, but not the patron. They questioned the wording of our policy and stated that the Library is a public building. After the Director was informed, he contacted the police to discuss the incident. This should be discussed further by the Board next month.

Announcements

The next Board meeting will be October 10th (Tuesday) at 7p.m

Ms. Marlowe informed the Board that she will be moving out of town in October.

Motion by Bahnuk to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. Lobby seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry L. Munson