

November 21, 2020



A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Reading Public Library commenced at 4:30 PM, Dennis Skayhan, President, presiding.

Present: Dennis Skayhan, Keith Mooney, Renee Dietrich, Alan Carman, Chris Phillips, Patricia Bell, Zelda Yoder, Felix Pena, Michel Micozzi, Nancy Campbell, Melissa Adams and Vicky Fuller.

Absent: Salvador Sepulveda, Sherry Cameron, Ramona Turner Turpin, Scott Lindsey, Alba Fernandez, Excused.

Guests: Julia Becker

Public Comment: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the October minutes made by Alan Carman, seconded by Michel Micozzi. Approved. Nancy Campbell requested that if minutes have any corrections during the meeting prior to approval that they be listed going forward.

Treasurers Report: Chris Phillips reported on the State, County and City income received. Cocktails and Classics net proceeds will be transferred and posted in November. Future Annual Appeal donations will be transferred by year end. Motion to accept the October Treasurer's Report was made by Renee Dietrich and seconded by Felix Pena. Accepted.

Director's Report: Melissa Adams reported that our Halloween Bash was success bringing over 75 children and adults into the library for live orchestra music, crafts, stem project, costume contest and free books and candy. Library staff conducted outreach at numerous locations, including story time programs at 13+ daycare locations, BCIU Head Start, and 10th & Penn Elementary School, and at St Peter's fall family night. Additional outreach included Pumpkin Palooza at Googleworks a teen STEM program at Southern middle and senior outreach to 215 patrons at 20 locations. Annual reviews of staff have been completed. I'm awaiting a meeting with the union about the possibility of making the open Librarian II position for Reference a non-city position.

We received a new ICA Agreement from the county to sign however, since instead of a simple amendment as expected, the county created a new agreement stating that "previous agreement regulatory terms were outdated" and that the needed to "draft a new agreement with current regulatory terms." In comparing it to the original agreement from 2016, there are numerous changes. After discussing it with Dennis, I sent the document to our attorney Jim Smith to review before signing.

Becky Wanamaker provided the District report prior to the meeting. The PaLa Conference happened in mid October in Harrisburg. Between the 19 hotel rooms that we were able to supply for librarians throughout the district, and the conference expenses that the BCPL Friends cover, we were thrilled to have such a huge degree of participation for libraries across the district. We have begun the process for updating the 2023-2028 district strategic plan, in which we hope to fine tune the goals and purposes and structure of district support services through RPL. Marissa Guidara mentioned that we were able to partner with the Reading Science Center and by showing your library card you could attend for free. Field trips were hosted, the first with 75 participating and the second saw over 100 participants. We've been asked to schedule more in the Spring.

Library Services: No Report

Facilities: Michel Micozzi reported that demo for the NE meeting room was complete and that framing has started. The next meeting is scheduled for December 6th and we expect the room to be completed by mid January.

Finance: Alan Carman reported that the committee has been working on the budget for 2023 and will schedule another meeting in the next few weeks. A copy of the budget will be sent prior to the December meeting.

Personnel: No Report

Strategic Planning: Felix Pena sent a report prior to the meeting. The committee met via Zoom and that Melissa Adams gave a presentation. Their next meeting will focus on setting criteria and a time table.

Advancement: Nancy Campbell reported that we had received \$507,000 YTD. Our goal for the annual appeal is \$40,000. We would like to thank Alba Fernandez for facilitating the grant we received from Truist for \$22,000 and Zelda for facilitating the EITC funds of \$7000 from Tompkins Vist. The Advancement Committee is working with Linda Capozello on a new Fundraising Plan. Reminder that donations from board members are due by end of year.

Unfinished Business: Dennis Skayhan received Scott Lindsey's resignation as a trustee and Board Secretary. The board accepts with regret his resignation.

Julia Becker is here today observing the board meeting process. She is a candidate through Leadership Berks and will be sponsored by the Library Company.

New Business: None

Zelda Yoder's trivia question: What is the longest running library literacy initiative? Answer: Children's Book week which was established in 1919.

Bonus Question: What are the names of the two turkeys pardoned by President Biden? Answer: Chocolate and Chip.

Motion to adjourn was made by Keith Mooney and seconded by Zelda Yoder. Approved.

Respectfully submitted as drafted by Vicky Fuller,



Chris Phillips
Treasurer