

AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
March 4, 2020
Secretary's Report

Present: Cynthia Selden, Michele Iannello-Ward, Carolyn Giambra, Marilyn Feuerstein, Marjorie Franknecht, Philip Casilio (4:30 pm)

Also Present: Roseanne Butler-Smith, Donna Kerr, Debbie Bruch Bucki (4:47 pm)

Excused Absence: Jeffrey Voelkl , Penny Wolfgang

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:14 pm by Michele Iannello-Ward.

2) Approval of Minutes for January 23, 2020 meeting

Motion to approve by Marilyn Feuerstein, seconded by Carolyn Giambra. All approved.

3) Approval of Agenda for March 4, 2020 meeting

All approved.

4) Public Comment

None at this time.

5) President's Report

None at this time.

6) Trustees Report

A). Ms. Franknecht commented on the hard work the director and the gala committee did for the event. She than spoke about her observations of the GALA 2020 set-up and distribution of raffle baskets. Discussion ensued on the topic. Also she voiced her concerns about the complexity of keeping the Williamsville

Branch Library open. Ms. Franknecht provided the board with a written copy of the items she discussed.

B). Ms. Selden and Ms. Feuerstein will attend the ACT meeting on March 14.

7) Town of Amherst Council Member's Report

Ms. Deborah Bruch Bucki announced a Town Resolution passed naming Kimil Construction as the Town plumbing contractor.

Ms. Bucki also noted she reached out to Maggie Winship about expansion updates for the Audubon Library project. Ms. Butler-Smith mentioned she was on a conference call today with Connie Minor and Maggie Winship regarding the expansion grant. Pictures of the soil boring project –official start of the project-were shown to Board members. Ms. Butler-Smith added that the expansion project should begin in the fall of 2020. There have been no official drawings at this time.

8) Finances

A.) 2019 Budget

i.) County Bills Paid- check #1676. Ms. Selden motioned, Mr. Casilio seconded. All approved.

ii.) Williamsville Bills Paid-none at this time.

iii.) Other Bills Paid- APL Secondary account-none at this time.

B) 2020 Budget

i.) County Bills Paid-1669-1675 and 1677-1678. Ms. Selden motioned, Ms. Franknecht seconded. All approved.

ii.) Williamsville Bills paid-check # 1221-1229. Ms. Selden motioned, Ms. Franknecht seconded. All approved.

iii.) Other Bills Paid- check #2430-2453. Ms. Selden motioned, Ms. Franknecht seconded. All approved.

C.) Town of Amherst Budget- Nothing at this time.

D.) Banking Balances- Bank balance information was handed out. Balances reviewed. Ms. Iannello-Ward asked if previous bank balances could be added to the current spread- sheet.

-

9) Director's Report

A.) Recap Advocacy Day-Ms. Butler-Smith attended with our librarian-Beth Staebell. Ms. Butler-Smith noted that the Governor's budget takes money away from libraries, while supporting new items.

B.)VOX books-Ms. Butler-Smith described the new books purchased for all 4 Amherst Libraries. These books read along to the child making reading for the new reader or the reluctant reader a great way to encourage reading and library use.

C.) Program Updates-Ms. Butler-Smith is partnering the Amherst Libraries with Meals on wheels. Children are being encouraged to make cards for seniors while at the library. Our libraries deliver the cards to the Meals on Wheels program for distribution. Ms. Butler-Smith also noted a St. Patrick's Week celebration tying in with the WBA's from 3/7-3/17@ the Williamsville with crafts to be made every day. Ms. Butler-Smith spoke about the New Breakfast Story time program currently offered for children at the Clearfield Branch, 25 children have been attending weekly. Many of the children attending are from ESL families. Plans are to offer a similar program in the summer, perhaps adding a lunch program as a need in the community appears to exist.

10) GALA 2020 Report

A.) Update –Ms. Butler-Smith gave a preliminary report on the numbers. A final financial report will be given at the next meeting. All Gala sponsors will be listed for the next Board meeting.

11) Buildings-

A.) Covid -19-Ms. Butler-Smith advised the Board that our caretakers are using and have been using Spectrum HBV- an

Expensive, hospital grade cleaner in all our buildings. We have beefed up cleaning on all hard surfaces.

Discussion ensued

12) Main Library at Audubon Expansion

A.) Building Committee- Ms. Selden and Mr. Voelkl had previously expressed an interest in

being on the Building Committee. Ms. Selden noted that she is still interested. The committee

should be in place by May 2020. Ms. Iannello-Ward motioned to put a committee together.

Motion to approve by Mr. Casilio, seconded by Ms. Feuerstein.

B.) Grant Update-Nothing more at this time.

13) Unfinished Business

14) New Business

A). Covid 19 virus Discussion ensued

The board agreed:

The Director will determine with Amherst caretaker staff if it will be possible to continue to clean at NEW recommended safety standards all four buildings so that they can be kept open for public service. If it is determined that all four buildings

cannot be maintained properly, branches would be closed as necessary; with the possibility of the Amherst Libraries operating as one Library building. It was determined that the Clearfield branch, which is centrally located in the town, would be the library to stay open.

The Board and the Director will be kept aware and accept those decision whether to remain open or close one or more of the Amherst libraries based on Central Library System recommendations and or government, state, county or local, recommendations.

If it is recommended to close libraries, the Amherst Libraries will follow suit per the time frame established.

Ms. Franknect motioned to approve this action, Ms. Iannello-Ward seconded All approved.

B). Ms. Ianello-Ward has been volunteering with Paws for Love and will be at the library on March 24 with her dog for a program.

C). Ms. Butler-Smith will review the State Report when it's finalized for the next Board meeting.

15) Correspondence

A.) Letter from Kathleen Berens Bucki- Ms. Butler-Smith shared a letter from Ms. Berens

Bucki. Also letters from Karen McMahan, Ed Rath, and Christ the King students were shared.

A Thank You note from our librarian, Carol Kowalik-Happy was shared.

16) Next meeting to be held: Next meeting is April 22 @4:15 pm at the Eggertsville-

Snyder Library.

17.) Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 5:41 pm. Motion by Ms. Giambra and seconded by Mr. Casilio.