

Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the Borough of Longport

March 18th, 2019 5:00 PM

Call to Order: President Roy Law called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM

Announcement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Law: This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting was advertised in the Press of Atlantic City on December 26, 2018 and sent to the Current on December 21, 2018. Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Library's website and in Longport Borough Hall. Official action may be taken at this meeting.

Recording of Attendance: Secretary Elizabeth Peterson-Ricci, Treasurer Patricia (Trish) English, President Roy Law, Member Erin Schiavo, Member Dolores Wilson, Member Damon Tomassi, Mayor Nick Russo, Library Director Ricky Gerhardt (all present for the meeting).

Also in Attendance: No additional people in attendance.

Absent: Carl Tripician/Board of Education President

Old Business: Approval of minutes from February 11th meeting (Drafts previously distributed to board members). Trish English motioned for approval of minutes, Erin Schiavo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comment: none

New Business:

President's Report:

President Roy Law indicated that he had a conversation/meeting earlier in the day with both Mayor Nick Russo and concerned citizen Pat Agnellini at his home. The discussion centered around the shared services agreement between Margate's Library and the Longport Library. There were several important points brought up by the Mayor and Mr. Agnellini that the Board President shared with the board. It is feared by the mayor and some citizens that a relationship that has been forged between communities may be tarnished as a result of us pulling out of a shared services agreement. The mayor and Mr. Agnellini asked Board President Roy Law to share those concerns with the board and Roy did so in his President's Report. The President asked that we take a straw vote on our Director obtaining RFP's to explore different ILS systems.

Treasurer's Report: Trish English, treasurer reported that our cash disbursed was up 7k from January, but she noted that upon review many book purchase bills had come in which generated the increase in bills paid. Dolores Wilson motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, Elizabeth Peterson-Ricci seconded the motion. All in favor none opposed.

Bill Pay List: The bill pay list was reviewed and presented by Trish English, treasurer. Ricky noted that there was a bill paid to him and wanted to clarify with the board that he used a personal credit card to renew the domain for the library web page. Dolores Wilson motioned to approve the bill paid list, Erin Schiavo seconded the motion, all in favor none opposed.

Director's Report:

Ricky discussed the February Statistics for programs and circulation. He indicated that our programs have been well received and attended and that our circulation stats were up roughly 450 items from this time last year. He provided the board with an update on our summer author series and programming for both children and adults. We have three authors lined up for the summer, and we will have to hold those events somewhere other than the Church of the Redeemer. We have been advised by our legal representation and maintaining a separation of church and state is advisable. The Church of the Redeemer does, however, still wish to collaborate on promoting our programs as well as their offerings of several author events.

We plan to offer many children's programs, including some new offerings of a Lego Movie Club and a Pokemon Club. Our adult offerings will include a continuation of Pinochle and Mahjong, culinary programs, movie nights, Bingo and Yoga to name a few. We can host our programs in the Library, Gazebo area and the Centennial Room.

Mobile Hotspots are a new item we are introducing to our circulation options. This will be a great asset for people who are temporary visitors and may need access to wi fi but don't have it up and running at their home or rental property.

Ricky explained in depth the current ILS system Innovative Sierra. He described his interactions with the decision makers for the Margate Library. He provided the board with a lot of insight on the pros and cons of Innovative Sierra and the logic of a move away from this system from a financial standpoint. There seems to be a glitch in the communication between the two libraries regarding a new ILS system and the shared services agreement. It is stated that no one from Margate has reached out to Ricky the Library Director, or Roy Law our President of the Board. Our discussion leads us to a decision that a meeting between the Directors and Board Presidents may be prudent to clear up the line of communication and gain clarity on this issue. We as a board took a straw vote to allow Ricky to continue in his quest for Requests for Proposals of different ILS options for the Longport Library. It was decided Ricky will move forward with the RFP.

Resolution 2019-8: Resolution Updating Lending Policy

Erin Schiavo motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the approval of an updated library lending policy. Damon Tomassi seconded the motion, all in favor none opposed.

Resolution 2019-9: Resolution Updating By-Laws

The resolution was updated to allow accurate record keeping at meetings in the absence of the secretary. Elizabeth Peterson-Ricci motioned to adopt the resolution, Erin Schiavo seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comment: none

Adjournment: Trish English motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm, Erin Schiavo seconded the motion, all in favor none opposed.