

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

December 11th, 2023 at 5:00pm

Call to Order: President Erin Schiavo called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

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 sent to the Press of Atlantic City on December 9, 2023 and sent to the Ocean City Sentinel on December 6, 2023. 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: President Erin Schiavo, Secretary Elizabeth Peterson-Ricci, Treasurer Joanne Clayton, Member Kate Subranni, Member Joe DiGriolamo, Member Gary Rubin, and Library Director Ricky Gerhardt in attendance.

The meeting attendees participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Absent: Member Dolores Wilson, President of the Board of Education Carl Tripician, Mayor Nick Russo

Old Business: Approval of minutes from November 13, 2023 meetings: Gary Rubin motioned to approve, Joe DiGiralomo seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comment: no public comment

New Business:

President's Report: Erin Schiavo, Board President, remarked that there is a planning board meeting coming up and Pat Armstrong, a resident, is interested in planting new trees, and making it a variance to have new trees part of new construction. There are no current statutes etc. He is going to head to the planning board meeting and Erin wanted to bring it to the attention to the board. Joe mentioned as a past member of the Margate planning board people had to plant in the governor's strip, but trees would often disappear etc. Ricky mentioned that there is a green team in Longport and asked Kate Subranni to comment, as her husband is a member of the committee. Joe mentioned that the canopy idea is favorable and very environmentally friendly. Bob English, resident, asked if you need permission to plant a tree in the governor's strip? Scott Porter, Borough Administrator, mentioned that it is not permitted to replace trees that fall down etc.

Erin mentioned that she will be absent for the January meeting, Liz Ricci will run the meeting, and someone else will have to take over as secretary for that meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Joanne Clayton, Treasurer, reported on the Library Finances for the last month. She indicated that we have \$1,018,719.68 as a beginning cash balance. She reported cash receipts in the amount of \$317.93 She reported a cash disbursed amount as \$21,974.39. The ending cash balance was \$ 997,063.22.

Elizabeth Peterson Ricci motioned to accept the treasurer's report, Kate Subranni seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Bill Pay List: The bill pay list was reviewed and presented by Joanne Clayton, treasurer. She mentioned that the one big expenditure was the handicap ramp and that was roughly \$5150.00. There were no questions presented by other meeting attendees. Member Gary Rubin motioned to approve the bill list, Joe DiGirolamo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Director's Report:

Ricky Gerhardt, Library Director, previously distributed a detailed report in preparation for this meeting. He added that the Tree and Menorah Lighting was very well attended. There is an upcoming concert at the Church of the Redeemer on 12/17 sponsored by the Foundation. The Cape Chorale Music Society will be performing and many in the community are looking forward to the annual event. The framing for the ramp at the museum is being worked on now.

Motions

Reorganization of Board Officers for the 2024 Calendar Year

Kate Subranni motioned to keep existing officers for the 2024 calendar year, Joe DiGirolamo seconded.
All in favor none opposed.

Resolutions

Resolution 2023-20 Resolution awarding a professional services contract for legal services

We have had the same lawyer for several years, they are very responsive and available for the legal questions and predicaments that arise.
Joe Digirolamo motioned to accept the resolution, Elizabeth Ricci seconded the motion, all in favor, none opposed.

Resolution 2023-21 Resolution awarding a professional service contract for auditing services

Elizabeth Ricci motioned to accept the resolution, Joanne Clayton seconded the motion, all in favor, none opposed.

R 2023-22 A Resolution updating the free public library of the borough of longport personnel policy and procedures manual.

A few small changes have been made to reflect the borough policies. Kate Subranni motioned to accept the resolution, Gary Rubin seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Ricky did make an announcement before adjournment to remind members that if they could not attend or call in to the next meeting they should notify he or Erin.

Adjournment: Liz Ricci motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:19pm, Gary Rubin seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.