

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

October 10, 2022 5:00 PM

Call to Order: President Roy Law called the meeting to order at 5:04 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 October 6, 2022 and sent to the Current on October 3, 2022. 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 Roy Law, Treasurer Patricia English, Secretary Erin Schiavo, Member Kate Subranni, Member Joanne Clayton, Library Director Ricky Gerhardt (all present for the meeting).

Absent: Member Dolores Wilson, Member Damen Tomassi, School Board President Carl Tripician, Mayor Nick Russo

Old Business: Approval of minutes from September 12, 2022 meetings. (Drafts previously distributed to board members). Erin Schiavo motioned for approval of minutes, Kate Subranni seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comment: none

New Business:

President's Report:

President Roy Law had nothing new to report.

Treasurer's Report: Trish English reported that there was a beginning balance of \$937,212.27. She reported cash receipts in the amount of \$112.06. Cash disbursed in the amount of \$31,983.81. The ending cash balance was \$905,340.52. Trish English motioned for approval of the report, Erin Schiavo seconded the motion. All in favor none opposed.

Bill Pay List: The October Bill Pay list was reviewed. There was a question about the Ancestry subscription from Erin Schiavo. Ricky clarified that the bill was an annual renewal. Kate Subranni motioned to approve the bill pay list, Erin Schiavo seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Director's Report: Ricky shared the statistics for September. Statistics include Materials Checkout (digital/physical), Website traffic, Library App downloads, New Borrowers and Programming. During those months, there were 28 total programs with 378 attendees.

Fall programs are underway and a seasonal gathering was held. Programs include a combination of crafts, movies, speakers, concerts, trivia, bingo and cooking classes.

The next seasonal gathering is Tuesday, December 6th, and a menorah and tree lighting ceremony is scheduled for December 9th behind the library, followed by a concert and refreshments indoors.

Ricky reviewed some ideas for Longport's 125th anniversary that he introduced at the September meeting. The ideas include themed apparel for the 125th anniversary, an end of summer bonfire, and a concert at the gazebo at 35th Avenue.

The first anniversary event will be held March 7th which will double as the Library Spring gathering and concert.

Ricky has met with Mayor Russo to discuss the Borough's plans for the 2023 anniversary year, and he has shared the Library's plans. More discussions will be held in the future.

The summer kick-off event is slated for 6/24/23, and an August event is being considered at the gazebo area on 35th Avenue.

Ricky will be meeting with an engineer to address the flooding issue in the Museum basement.

In foundation news, a holiday concert is being planned at The Church of the Redeemer on Sunday 12/18/22.

Strategic Planning Committee: Erin Schiavo shared that the Committee reconvened to examine the existing Strategic Plan which is set to expire in 2023. Regarding the issue of expansion, Erin explained that the Committee decided to survey the public to see if that is still something the patrons feel is important. There was discussion about making sure the survey reached as many residents as possible. Erin and Ricky explained that the survey is the first step in the process of potentially moving forward with any plans, and that there will be many further steps prior to any formal plans being made.

Adjournment: At 5:43pm Erin Schiavo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kate Subranni seconded. All in favor, none opposed.