

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY
530 Colonial Avenue
Pelham, NY 10803

March 2, 2022

Board Members Present: Terrance Mullan, Judy Shampanier, Karen Fellner, Rob Gimigliano, Jennifer Meyer, Lisa Robb, Michelle Dvorkin and Catherine Campbell.

Board Members Absent: Keith Keaveney and Emily Gest

Also in Attendance: Library Director Augusta Turner and Maura Curtin, Town Liason

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m.

Approval of the December 8th minutes: Tabled until the April meeting because of a lack of quorum of those who had attended the meeting.

Approval of the January 12th minutes: LR moved to approve the minutes. RG seconded. Passed unanimously.

Finance Committee: TM gave the report in KK's absence.

- The Friends have sent their first quarterly payment of the year, a bit early.
- Fines have been a bit below budget.
- The Mayer Family gave an unrestricted donation. AT sends a thank you note to them, and all donors.
 - Ted Mayer worked at the Library for many years.
- AT noted that we received the \$1,800 grant check from Arts Westchester for the ice sculpture program, which was a big success.
- CC moved to accept the financials and the balance sheet. JM seconded. Passed unanimously.

Friends' Report: JM gave the report.

- The next Novel Night will be September 30, 2023.
- Pelham Reads! will be October 1, 2022. There are several books under consideration, including Blake Bell's book, *The Haunted History of Pelham*.
 - The Friends have many ideas for fun activities.
- There has been a lot of turnover on the Friends. They anticipate filling all of the vacancies.

Personnel Committee: MD gave the report.

- There are two potential new full-time employees. They have been offered the positions, and have accepted, pending the Board's approval.
- TM asked AT for an organizational chart for the next meeting.
- Action Item: Appoint Kathryn Palovick, Librarian I effective March 7, 2022 with administrative leave until March 28, 2022 @ \$58,000/year.

- Action Item: Appoint Colette Storti-Roberts, Librarian I effective March 8, 2022 with administrative leave until March 28, 2022 @ \$58,000/year.
- MD made two motions, to appoint the two new hires: KP and C S-R, respectively. JS seconded both motions. Both were passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee: TM gave the report.

- The minutes do not reflect that the Board ever voted on CC's position as Vice President of the Board. To rectify that, JM made a motion and JS seconded. The motion was passed unanimously, with CC abstaining.

Policy Committee: CC gave the report.

- The Board needs a disaster plan. TM and the Safety Committee will work on this. JS will work with TM.
- The Personnel Committee will consult the Town's Personnel Handbook when updating the Library's Personnel Handbook.

President's Report:

- TM reported on the Town's Grant Committee discussion. He also gave background on the grant process. There is a \$50,000 planning grant and a \$500,000 construction grant.
- Query whether it is the right time to reengage with the grant discussion for the Library?
 - NYS Senator Biaggi had obtained funding for us to explore a buildout.
 - This is a reimbursement grant, so the challenge is to lay out the money first.
 - We need a guiding document to get a consultant to review options.
- MC asked if there is utility in combining various Town projects to look at needs and community resources at once.
 - If so, there could be a committee with stakeholders from different organizations.
 - Maybe money could be fronted from Town reserves.
- LR stated that she has heard that small grants, of under \$50,000, may be handled differently from larger grants. She would like to have a meeting with JM and AT to begin brainstorming.
- RG pointed out that \$500,000 won't achieve much in terms of construction.

Director's Report: AT gave the report.

- She has been working on the Annual Report. She asked for updated information from the Trustees.,
- On February 18th, there was a temporary power outage. The generator only worked for about 20 minutes because the battery had died. AT had it replaced.
- WLS has improved the wifi, for both the public and the staff.
- AT recapped the ice sculpture event, which was very well-attended. Depot Dave was also quite pleased with his sales at the event.
- The Library's outdoor space has been very popular.
- A local artist donated free bookmarks she created for the Library as part of the Pelham Chamber of Commerce's Simple Acts of Kindness Day program.
- The Library has about 600 COVID-19 tests on hand that it received from the County for distribution to the community.
- The Library is offering a St. Patrick's Day quiz.
- For Women's History Month, the Library has created take-home coloring packets that included coloring pages and information about famous women in STEM.

- TG wrote and designed a coloring book on Women in Science, and is reproducing pages from her book.
- The question of masking at the Library arose. The staff wants to wear masks when interacting with the public, but not when in private. The new signage will say “Masks appreciated.”

THERE WAS NO OTHER BUSINESS.
The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Shampanier, temporary Secretary