VIA Board Meeting

1-16-24

Present: Michelle, Bill Heffernan, Colleen Bailie, Catherine Bushman, Chalie Gunning, Pat Donnelly

On Zoom: Bill Lang, John Galvin, Susan Walker, Gwen Haley, Elaine Khu, Len Adams, Mary Malenda

Bill called the meeting to order at 5:01pm. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Bill Lang seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Director’s Report: Colleen said that she is still trying to find an accountant replacement. This year’s budget will begin to be less over budget going forward. She said that it looks as though we will be asking for next year’s budget to be a minimum ask of 13% to cover basic cost increases and keep the library open the same hours.

The Children’s Librarian reported that there has been an uptick in attendance at story time. Last month at the Gingerbread event. She said that there were ten families at the event and everyone had a great time. The drive for Baby Clothes had more than 1000 articles of clothing donated. She said that Take your Child to the library will be on February 3, 2024 and that there will be a shadow puppet show.

Catherine said that she is still working on weeding the books from the Allingtown Library. She said that is in the process of reordering magazines and the Register.

The Book Club has 53 members. The group may be split into two groups, possibly one group meeting in the afternoon and the other in the evening.

Staff reported that ESL classes are going well and they intend to have more cultural events for next month for Black History Month.

The Children’s Librarian reported that there has been an uptick in attendance at story time. Last month at the Gingerbread event. She said that there were ten families at the event and everyone had a great time. The drive for Baby Clothes had more than 1000 articles of clothing donated. She said that Take your Child to the library will be on February 3, 2024 and that there will be a shadow puppet show.

Treasurer Report: Charlie said that the projection is that we will be $60,000 over budget. He said that the market is “way down” at this point. A motion was made to accept the report and the vote was unanimous.

Friends of the Library: Pat reported that the Friends will sponsor a Poet reading on 2-7-24 for Black History Month. There will be a book sale on April 6, 2024.

Bill said that he has spoken to our new Mayor, Dorinda Borer, and the Corporation Counselor and they said that the property at 668 Boston Post Rd will be foreclosed on and that he is pretty confident that we will get the property.

New Business: We need an endowment policy since the current one is outdated. The endowment plan had 1.91 million dollars as of 12-31-23 and as of today there is 1.85 million. Charlie made a motion was made to approve the endowment plan, Bill Lang seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Colleen said that we need to approve on-line payments for the basic monthly payments for such things as medical, insurances and utilities. She said that there would be a clear paper trail. Michelle made a motion to approve, motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Colleen said that we need a resolution that would allow Colleen and Bill Heffernan to negotiate on behalf of the library. A motion was made to approve. Motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Malenda