VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

April 16, 2019

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order at 6:40 p.m. on

April 16, 2019 in the Connie Sacco Room of the Main Library by President Ted Brown.

Present were Gert Beckwith, Ted Brown, Patricia Donnelly, John Galvin, Charles Gunning, Curtis Hodgkins, William Lang, and Susan Walker, and Director Colleen Bailie. Absent were Michelle Bernardi, Joseph Fortino, William Heffernan, Mary Malenda, and Alan Olenick. Also present were staff members Lauren Johnson and Amanda Welsh.

Minutes of March 19, 2019 meeting were approved as printed by motion of W. Lang, seconded by P. Donnelly, and carried.

Director’s Report: C. Bailie: Staff: over 250 applications came in for custodian position. She expects interviewing to begin in a couple of weeks; goal is to have a custodian in place by June. Union will be meeting tomorrow night. Insurance rates are high and they are looking for lower rates. UI rates: whenCity changes we will go with them for better rates. She will look into solar and get info or someone to present a plan. She will meet with City Council about strategic plan on April 22nd. Helpfully we will get the $25,000 back. Working with Superintendent of Schools and we will host kindergarten registration in May. Fund raising: received a $250 check from U of New Haven to sponsor Mini golf. Between appeal and fundraiser we made just about $7,000. Summer program Ready for the grade: we received less money this year and are trying for more grants. We have money enough 20 kids now and trying for 40. We signed up for Connecticut Digital Archives. Front door sensor needs work; it signals that the door is open when it is not, especially during wind storms. She attended meeting of Allingtown residents. No parking in front of LP.We did not receive any advance notice that construction was beginning and can’t use the front parking spaces. Budget: working to move line items to come out of special funds. Money from endowment could be for operations, expenses $50,000.

Assistant Director’s Report not present

Staff Reports:

L. Johnson: Instagram has over 117 users. Amato donations are on the shelf outside Director’s office. Through Conn. Digital Archives she has been working on post card collection.

A. Welsh: circulation numbers are good in Graham Room, increasing from last year. She has been certified as a children’s yoga instructor and yoga classes have begun . Animal story times (4 different animals) will be weekly in June. Teens are working off fines by helping plan Sumer Reading program.

Treasurer’s report: C. Gunning, we are in the hole approximately $71,117. To date: Endowment is $1,863.442, special account $42,044 (which includes $12,000 New

Alliance Grant,) general checking $54,745. Motion to accept report made by C. Gunning, seconded by W. Lang and carried.

Friends of Library: P. Donnelly: She and Alan Olenick attended FOCL fundraising conference. Conn. River Books will host an auction in October without charge to Friends groups. Books will be auctioned off and proceeds from each book given to Friends group.

Trivia night will be held May 17th.

Commitees:

Nominating: W. Lang Board is short two directors: resumes were distributed from Leonard Adams and Elaine Khu. Motion made by W. Lang, seconded by J. Galvin, and carried to appoint Mr. Adams and Ms. Khu to the Board. W. Lang will call them and then Director will contact them for tour and info.

 Old Business:

Bookmobile shelving: will cost $1,465 American Ladders & Scaffolding of Milford. Motion to install shelving made by C. Gunning, seconded by P. Donnelly and carried. Money will come out of Endowment account as a capital improvement.

New Business.

Space Assessment:Motion to proceed with assessment. Director will ask City for a name that they recommend; person/company must have experience with libraries.

Board went into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. and came out at 8:43 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019.