VIA Meeting

November 19, 2019

Minutes

Attendance: Galvin, Bernardi, Walker, Malenda, Hodgkins, Lang, Khu, Donnelly, Gunning, Olenick.

Absent: Brown, Adams, Heffernan, Fortino,

Colleen Baille, Catherine Bushman

Meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm by John Galvin

Motion to accept minutes of October meeting – Motion by Curtis, seconded by Charlie, motion passed

Presentation before City Council – Alan. Copy of presentation was given out.

On November 14th, group from library board met with Bridget Hoske and Robin Hamilton from the City Council. VIA group consisted of Alan, Charlie, Mary, Ted. They discussed the operation of the library. Comparisons were made to similar communities like Milford, Stratford, Meridan. West Haven Library budget has not recovered from the 2015 cut. We want them to access facilities, budget, staffing, etc. The Council wants us to stay within current budget.Colleen and Catherine gave the presentation. They do not seem to be hearing that we cannot live within the budget.

Staff reports

Maria = Graham room – National Library week is in April. Circulation is up. Well attended programs. Working with elementary schools, Bailey and WHHS.

Aisha – Piantino – Talked about having Pop-up libraries in stores. The construction on the building next door is causing parking problems She is going to open back door for just the Book Club so they don’t have to walk around to the front. Council members had meeting there and complained about parking.

Amanda – Graham Room – Circulation up. Outreach program is doing well. Halloween Spectacular – 46 people attended.

Shannon – She has been fixing printers and computers. Ordered new computers.

Taylor – Reference Room – Programs – Meditation, Yoga, Homebuyers, Renting, Savings, Psychic.Garden Club did the Carnegie Garden

The new custodian is doing a wonderful job.

Colleen – New librarian for Ora Mason – lives in Weston. Dec. 18th scheduled an all day staff meeting for active shooter training, cyber security. Sexual harassment will be discussed at another time. Printing from phone is now possible.

Negotiations – First meeting on Nov. 26th.

Holiday Party will be Wednesday, Jan. 15th at Brazi.

McMillian publishers has an embargo on libraries. Can only get 1 ebook copy for the 1st 6 months. Amazon won’t sell ebooks to libraries. They feel it cuts into their business.

Catherine – She has been working on scheduling software for punching in and out. She is also working on Power Point for City Council.

Finance – Charlie – Doing okay so far.

Motion to accept Finance report = M/S/V passed

Friends of the Library – Pat. She went to the conference at Central. The Friends are still looking for a treasurer. They will do backround checks on the person. They are looking for volunteers and donations. Colleen said they are looking at high school volunteers.

New Business –

Colleen – She is looking to get new furniture for public areas from the capital improvement fund. She will ask Bill Sapienza to put a proposal together to see what it would take to bring the storeroom up to code.

Motion to go into Executive Session. M/S/V -8:30 p.m.

Motion to come out of Executive Session. Motion made by Alan and seconded by Bill Lang. 8:48 p.m.Motion

Motion to adjourn. Alan made motion and Mary seconded it. 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Walker, Secretary