

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

December 19, 2017

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order by President Ted Brown at 6:30 p.m. on December 19, 2017 in the Connie Sacco Room of the Main Library.

Present were Gert Beckwith, Ted Brown, Patricia Donnelly, Joe Fortino, John Galvin, Charles Gunning, William Heffernan, William Lang, Susan Walker, Director Colleen Bailie and Assistant Director Catherine Bushman. Absent were Michelle Bernardi, Pamela Gardner, Curtis Hodgkins, John Lewis, Mary Malenda, Alan Olenick and Susan Walker. Also present were staff members Travis Feder, Julia Dandio, Sara White and Maria Zervos.

Minutes of November 21, 2017 meeting were approved as printed by motion of B. Lang, seconded by C. Gunning, and carried.

Director's Report: C. Bailie: Party for retiring custodian Bob Amato will be Dec. 28 1-3 p.m.; Holiday party for staff and board will be Dec. 29th 5:30 at Biagettis. Terrill Shaw has been hired as new custodian and will start Dec. 26th. Kym Powe has been hired as YA librarian. Josie Minchella has given her notice and will leave 12/21. Her position has been posted and interviews will be held in Janaury. Josie will help train her replacement. Budget meeting will be called for January. Rodent issue at Main; she contacted Conn Pest who came today and will come again in two weeks and every month for a year at a cost of \$720. Main Parking Lot Enlargement: quotes were sent to City Hall; lowest quote was from City Point Construction.

Signage: Ora Mason sign was ordered. Main sign: she is not sure if our location is in the Historic District or not. It should not be a "flashy" sign. Travis is getting quotes.

NEA grant: Veterans Military Museum wants to work with us on One Book-Big Read project. She will be on vacation Jan. 11-19th.

LP branch: sewer backup and library has been closed since Nov. 27th. Air quality is being monitored. Elevator will not be operational when building is re-opened.

Assistant Director's Report C. Bushman attended West Haven Early Childhood Council. Children's paintings are on exhibit for "The view from my window". She has thanked patrons for donations.

Staff Reports:

Julia Dandio: she is updating the collection. The turnout for story time is steady. Holiday crafts event was held to make ornaments. Candy Land life size game is planned, a program for Chinese New Year, and a science and art program

Travis Feder: read letter from Union President Tanarah Smith thanking Board for the generous bonus. Patrons could not sign in to the education data bases and this has been corrected. It is now up and running. He reorganized the resources page on website.

Sara White: had 15 tech appointments and 8 more this week. She has set up a writing workshop with Susan Strecker, a fee will be charged. Also working on programs: fiber security awareness, retirement planning, cookbook club with Tanarah Smith. She is now CLA reference chair.

Maria Zervos thanked Board for support for OM opening; there was a good response. Programming is beginning in new space including scavenger hunt, making “glitter slime” and hands on craft programs.

Ted Brown thanked staff for the good job they are all doing.

Treasurer’s report: C. Gunning: We are not in too bad shape. We are down in operational income. Motion to accept treasurer’s report made by B. Lang, seconded by B. Heffernan and carried.

Committees: Director suggested By Lws Committee meet.

Friends of Library: P. Donnelly: Elm City Girls Choir coming to sing Feb. 7th at First Congregational Church; she has tickets tonight (prices \$10 and \$8 student/senior, \$12 at door). A banner has been ordered to put on fence n Campbell Ave. There will be a fund raising committee meeting on Jan. 16th.

Old Business:

Allingtown branch: all staff is working at Main. Hoping to re-open by Jan. 1st. If this is not possible Director would like to open Main until 8 p.m. 4 nights a week in January. T. Brown has talked with Lou Esposito; City Health Department has to OK the air quality before library can be opened.

Signage: quotes are due next week.

New Business

Wi fi Hot Spots: Director will ask Sara White to give a mini-presentation about this at next month’s meeting. They cost \$30 per month each.

Board went into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. and returned to open session at 7:27 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 by motion of B. Heffernan, seconded by B. Lang and carried.

Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M.