

## VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

March 28, 2017

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order by President Alan Olenick at 6:35 p.m. on March 28, 2017 in the Connie Sacco Room of the Main Library.

Present were Gert Beckwith, Michelle Bernardi, Ted Brown, Patricia Donnelly, Joseph Fortino, John Galvin, Pamela Gardner, Charles Gunning, William Heffernan, Curtis Hodgkins, Alan Olenick, Susan Walker, Director Colleen Bailie and Assistant Director Catherine Bushman. Absent were: William Lang, John Lewis, and Mary Malenda . Also present were staff members Josy Minchella, Rosaland Hanneh, Tanarah Smith and Maria Zerbos.

**Minutes** of February 27, 2017 meeting were approved as printed by motion of B. Heffernan, seconded by C. Gunning, and carried.

**Director's Report:** C. Bailie: One more full time position is yet to be filled and one part time. Children's librarian position has been posted. Budget report: zero increase in Mayor's budget. Because of staff who left we are doing OK with the current budget. Main has heating problems and no solution has been found as yet; George Ellis Company is running tests. Library was closed one day in March because of snow. Contract for OM has been signed and we are ready to go any day now. The State budget is not looking good. Security person is incredibly helpful. (with P. Gardner) West Haven High School students will coming to the library for Senior Experience on April 5<sup>th</sup>, for a program called "making the most of the experience at college" and even designing their own experience. Teen center is looking for donations of games people no longer use.

**Staff Reports:.** C. Bushman is working on interviewing new personnel; staff scheduling takes a long time. Money from return of CD storage equipment still not received; one more time and she will send the letter drafted by our attorney.

R. Henna is starting a job bulletin board and working with patrons one-on-one with resumes. She is working with Travis on program just for men also working on a gaming program. Small Business Association is partnering with the library and getting a good response for the series.

T. Smith has trained two new employees (Clare and Rebecca). Library Insight program has added Long Wharf Theatre and Basketball Museum (which can be reserved on line). Animal Embassy program will be June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Display case is featuring a local artist. New employees are flexible as to which library they are being placed.

J. Minchella: system fully switched to ADP with no more paper checks for payroll. Greater New Haven Community Foundation money has been received. Alan will sign for the transfer tomorrow. There is \$69,000 in general fund and \$47,000 in special fund.

M. Zervos: she has found a great staff here and at OM and is excited about the coming renovations and the fact the library will not have to be closed during them..

**Treasurer's report:** C. Gunning: we are in line with budget.

**Committees:** . T.Brown wants Program Committee to meet before next month's Board meeting so we can be informed what programs are happening.

**Friends of Library:** P. Donnelly: Membership renewals are coming in fast and furiously. She went to FOCL meeting. She has made phone calls regarding a concert in 2017. Books can be donated to Savers and Goodwill and receive payment of ten cents per pound. Staff/volunteers lunch will be April 24<sup>th</sup>. Branches will be closed for two hours so staff can come to Main. Bill Heffernan will speak on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

**Old Business:**

OM construction is ready to go. The building permit is at City Hall  
C. Bailie: Budget hearing is April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our zero increase is really a \$74,000 decrease. Our book budget is low compared to Milford and other libraries of similar size communities. We have a large staff turnover because our salaries are lower and we are not competitive.

**New Business**

June 21 meeting conflicts with retirement party for Lion leader. Meeting changed to June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Executive Session:** Board went into Executive Session at 7:35 and Board came out of Executive Session at 7:45 .

Motion by J. Galvin, seconded by B. Heffernan and carried to authorize A. Olenick to contact security company to get a proposal for security camera at LP.

Applications for Connie Sacco scholarship will be at West Haven High School.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 by motion of M. Bernardi, seconded by S. Walker, and carried.

Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith