

Putnam Valley Library Board of Trustees Minutes
February 22, 2023

Attendees:

Trustees Present: Jodi Carlson, Terry Raskyn, Leslie Martin, Ginger Lefurgy, Marilyn Power

Trustees Absent: Cori Madrid, Janet Dolot, Beth Appel

Library Director: Katherine Reilly

1. The meeting began with a presentation from Boy Scout Benjamin Ostroff, who offered a proposal to construct a small reading garden with plants and seating in the library's yard as a project to earn his Eagle Scout badge. The trustees suggested moving the proposed site of the garden from the far right to the far left corner of the garden, and Benjamin agreed.

Marilyn moved and Jodi seconded approval of the project; the vote was unanimous, with appreciation to Benjamin for the proposed project expressed by all.

2. Ginger moved and Leslie seconded approval of the minutes. The vote was unanimous.

3. On-going Business:

Options for achieving sustainable funding were discussed, as well as strategies for informing the public about the justifications for the decision and timing of the vote.

A proposal to collect petitions for a vote to establish a library budget under Education Law, Section 259 was moved by Ginger and seconded by Leslie; the vote was unanimous.

The trustees then discussed the level of funding that would be included in the 259 proposal and concluded that \$460,000 would be the appropriate level for the request. Leslie moved and Ginger seconded this proposal; the vote was unanimous.

The trustees will begin collecting signatures on the petition and will plan an educational campaign in advance of the vote.

4. Director's Report:

Kathy reported on the varied and well-attended programs for both children and adults the library offered in January. Among regularly offered library programs, Mahjong and Book Club are on-going programs with growing attendance, as well as the Ham Radio club and a Let's Write workshop for children. The Teen Advisory council is continuing, but the Teen Dungeons and Dragons program has ended.

Thermodynamix has serviced the blowers on the HVAC system, and made needed repairs. They reported that a major cleaning of the coils is needed, which would be an additional expense.

The library has lost internet services on three occasions so far this year because the library lacks a static IP address. The estimated cost for a static address would be \$180 per month. The trustees agreed that a static IP address was needed, and suggested researching costs from alternative services before making a final decision.

The library has hired a new Business Manager, Jacqueline Haeugsen, and well as a Library Clerk, Logan Duncan, for one day a week. There is still a Library Clerk position open.

The next meeting will be Monday, March 20, at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Power