

Monday March 18, 2024

Putnam Valley Library Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Guests: Michael Bennett (Friends of the Library); Peter Carey, MHLS Board of Trustees, Carla Taylor, MHLS Board of Trustees (both representing Putnam County)

Trustees present: Joseph Ferraro, Leslie Martin, Terry Raskyn, Ginger Lefurgy, Jodi Carlson, Gabrielle Del Pozzo Finkel, Marilyn Power, Tom Pendleton

Also present: Library Director Amina Chaudhri

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Board President Joseph Ferraro.
2. There was no public comment on agenda items.
3. Minutes from the February 2024 meeting were approved unanimously, following a motion to approve by Marilyn Power, seconded by Jodi Carlson.
4. Guests Taylor and Carey briefly introduced themselves.
5. Director's Report:
 - a. Adult programming going well: Zoom for the Metropolitan Museum of Art hosted around 110 people; Joe Rao's 87; Bottle Detection program upcoming. Children and Adult programs will be done for the eclipse.
 - b. The 3-D printer is now being booked.
 - c. Children's programming all doing well, especially the read to Sunny Boy (dog) and cooking classes for kids, Lego Club.
 - d. Math tutoring going well (H.S. and College)
 - e. A mini-grant from the Solar Eclipse Task Force has funded a workshop with Joe Rao for kids and to provide eclipse glasses. A StarLab portable planetarium will also be brought to the Library for a program and storytimes centered around the eclipse will be done in English and Spanish.
 - f. Tech: Three more Dell PCs have been ordered. There are still issues with the digital sign.
 - g. The Cornell Cooperative Extension and Second Chance Foods program has been successful. CCE is also helping to restock our seed library and to do a Seed to Supper program.
 - h. Community Room: The old round tables and chairs were picked up and went to nonprofit groups. The first stack of chairs has been acquired and a chair cart is soon to come, as well as nine 30 x 72 tables.
 - i. Amina will be attending the PCLA Directors meeting next week at Desmond Fish; a PCLA meeting for directors and trustees will be held April 18th from 6-to-8 PM at the Mahopac Library.
 - j. The annual report to the state has been filed.
 - k. Ethan Allen reports there is no ETA on the ERC Credit.

- l. Grants – Amina has acquired a \$21,000 decarbonization grant from a private foundation that will purchase one of our six heat pumps (for the DVD Room) and help with insulation.
 - m. Landscaping bids are being evaluated.
 - n. The canned goods drive with United Way is complete.
 - o. The Digital Navigator program is under way and Cole Caulfield will soon be certified.
 - p. Our stretchy plastic recycling program has now collected more than 500 pounds.
6. Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Leslie Martin reports:
- a. Funding is as expected.
 - b. Grants are \$51,000 over budget, we will have a total of \$75,000.
 - c. Donations are \$2,000 over budget.
 - d. Salaries are under budget but Operations is over budget.
 - e. Computer and tech is slightly under budget.
 - f. Our Ameriprise advisor has gotten us into a Money Market yielding 5.3% (in addition to our other investments); money can be transferred into our checking account when needed with just two days’ notice.
 - g. The NYS portal for grants (NY Grant Space) – Marilyn Power will be the named representative from the Board; Tom Pendleton will back her up.
7. Friends of the Library: Michael Bennett reported that, with the renewal of the Hudson River Museum pass, all passes are current and paid. He has acquired 25 Museum of Natural History Individual Passes.
8. Old Business: Continuing education programs and the digital sign were discussed.
9. New Business:
- a. Facilities Plan: With a motion by Ginger Lefurgy, seconded by Tom Pendleton, the Trustees voted unanimously to approve the Facilities Plan. Kudos were given to Leslie Martin for her work on this and all the other policies.
 - b. Committee Assignments – updated:

Executive / Finance:

Joseph Ferraro
Ginger Lefurgy
Leslie Martin
Terry Raskyn

Facilities:

Jodi Carlson

Gabrielle DelPozzo Finkel

Leslie Martin

Marilyn Power

Long-Range Planning:

Jodi Carlson

Ginger Lefurgy

Tom Pendleton

Fundraising / Grants:

Gabrielle Del Pozzo Finkel

Tom Pendleton

Marilyn Power

Leslie Martin

Landscaping:

Jodi Carlson

Ginger Lefurgy

Marilyn Power

10. Public Comment: MHLS Representatives Taylor and Carey notified the Trustees there is an open Trustee position on the MHLS Board representing Putnam County.

11. Following a motion by Ginger Lefurgy seconded by Jodi Carlson, a motion to close succeeded. The next meeting is April 15th. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Raskyn
Secretary
Putnam Valley Library Board of Trustees

