Baldwinsville Public Library

Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – February 14, 2024

Present: Craig Maguire, Pres., Mary Anne Williams, Mary Schmutz, Pam Fallesen, Frank Valchine, John Klimachefski, Donation Fund Treasurer, Margaret Van Patten, Library Director, Diane Natale, Secretary.

Excused: Linda Clarkson, VP.; Mary Lou Carpinella

Meeting called to order at 7:17 p.m.

I. Conflict of Interest – None

II. Disposition of Minutes of January 10, 2024. A correction to the Board minutes of December, 2023, under Section IX New Business. Margaret spoke with the Liverpool Library Director to find out what the Liverpool School District takes care of for the Liverpool Library building. Craig is not the Liverpool librarian. I would also like to add to last month's Board meeting, under section IX New Business. Thank you notes were received from Mary Crego and Diane Natale for Christmas gift cards from the Library. Move to accept minutes by Pam Fallesen, second by Mary Schumtz. Carried

III. Treasurer's Report-Public Fund. The new budget is being developed. Governor Hochul could change the 2% tax cap in this area. Move to accept Treasurer's report for the Public Fund by Pam Fallesen, second by Frank Valchine. Carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report -Donation Fund. The CDs are maturing in July, 2024 and we need to decide what to do with them, ie., transfer them, renew them, etc. Move to accept Treasurer's Report for Donation Fund by Mary Schmutz, second by Pam Fallesen. Carried

V. Bills- Public Fund. Cooney's bills were for the repair and upkeep of the Tower float assembly, circulator pump, etc. for air quality in the library. Move to accept Public Fund by Mary Anne Williams, second by Pam Fallesen. Carried.

VI. Bills- Donation Fund. None Presented

VII. Public Comments. If someone wishes to speak at a Library Board meeting there needs to be a form filled out ahead of time. It was noted that this form could not be found on our library web site. Move to approve Public Comments section of library handbook by Mary Anne Wiliams, second by Pam Fallesen. Carried. We also discussed what is the library doing for the eclipse on April 8, 2024? There will be a big screen TV in the reference area for patrons to watch among other activities.

VIII. Old Business

Updates:

A. Library Construction Grants. Work needs to be completed by June, 2024 for new heat pumps.
B. Monthly Energy Use Review. Air is trending as before.
C. Nate Secord: Green Energy Team. We are waiting to hear back from them.

IX . New Business

A. Trustee election and Budget Vote, April 18, 2024. Move to approve Thursday, April 18, 2024 as the Trustee election and Library budget vote by Pam Fallesen, second by Mary Anne Williams. Carried
B. Ruth Connell Award. This award is in memory of Ruth Connell, who was the first Baldwinsville Public Librarian. The employees are the ones who recommend the winner. The ceremony is on Thursday morning, May 16, 2024. Public funds cannot be used for this function, There is the possibility Friends of the Library may take it over.
C. Personnel. Move to appoint Marc Wildman as a substitute Librarian I at $21.92 per hour by Pam Fallesen, second by Frank Valchine. Carried.
D. Other. A thank you note was received for a Christmas gift card from Mike Conway, who was our muralist around the canal boat in the children's area.

Craig is going to talk with Linda Clarkson to see if she is interested in running again. In the meantime, Mary Schmutz and Mary Lou Carpinella will become Vice Presidents, Pro Tem, in the event the VP, Linda, is not available. Move to accept by Pam Fallesen, second by Frank Valchine. Carried

X. Director's Report. After Margaret Van Patten reported an incident, it was suggested to add to the Patron Code of Conduct that says taking videos or pictures of staff or anyone in the library, without their permission, is not allowed. "Federal courts have deemed public libraries as a "limited public forum", which means public libraries have some discretion to reasonably restrict the exercise of free speech rights in their buildings". Move to accept this suggestion by Pam Fallesen, second by Mary Anne Williams. Carried.

The canal boat has been installed and named Steady Eddie in honor of Ed McManus, who was on the library board and who was instrumental in getting the new Baldwinsville library built. The ribbon cutting ceremony was on February 9, 2024.

Van Patten and Maguire had a good meeting with Supt. of Schools, Dr. Joe DeBarbieri and Assist. Supt. for Management Services, Kimberly Vile over who is responsible for the Baldwinsville Public Library building. Since neither had seen it, they were given a tour of the basement. BCSD Chief of Operations, Rick Federer now has a key fob so that he can access and inspect the library building. There will continue to be discussions about our building needs.

Van Patten announced that October 2024 will complete her 45th year of working at the Baldwinsville Public Library and she has decided to retire at that time. Details to follow.

Adjournment at 8:59 p.m. Motion to accept by Pam Fallesen, second by Mary Anne Williams. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Natale