

White Plains Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Regular Meeting

October 8, 2014

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President Paul Schwarz. In attendance were Trustees Barrera, Connors, D'Ambrosio, Furth, Haynes, James, Matthews-Serra, and Schwarz. Absent with notice was Trustee Scherer. Also in attendance were Library Director Brian Kenney, Assistant Library Director Kathy Degyansky, Foundation Executive Director, Libby Hollahan and Library Director's Secretary, Sandra McDaniel.

Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 10, 2014

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 10, 2014 were approved as submitted on a MOTION by Trustee Haynes, seconded by Trustee Matthews-Serra.

Budget:

City Revenue & Expenditure Budget by Department as of October 1, 2014 were reviewed.

Bills: 2014/15 Budget: #4

Trustee Furth reviewed the bills prior to the meeting. Trustee Furth, seconded by Trustee Haynes approved payment of bill voucher, #4 on a MOTION. Trustee Matthews-Serra noted that the PASNY bill was over \$35,000 which was up \$5,000 and Library Director Kenney responded that the City across the board had received an increase and it should decrease next month to the usual amount.

Report of Library Administration

Library Director Kenney reported that he was going to try to initiate a preliminary discussion with a Starbuck's-type of establishment to see if they would be interested in occupying space in the Bookstore Café. Mr. Kenney advised the Board that the Hoopla contract for the on-demand internet streaming service was signed today and that he would coordinate with the department heads the launch of the new service.

Trustee Matthew-Serra inquired about the 500 holds that were not being picked up and was there a way to fine people. Library Director Kenney explained that in the past people were fined for not picking up reserves, but this had been discontinued. Assistant Library Director Degyansky noted that when we had fined people it created dissent and argument at the service desk, taking up valuable staff time, and she doesn't recommend fining people. Trustee Haynes stated that a person waiting for the book was unable to get it and Mr. Kenney said a reminder was being sent through WLS software to pick up the hold.

Trustee Reports & Business

WLS – Trustee Furth stated that there was nothing to report. Trustee Furth attended a Library Association meeting last night on new technology (3D printer and Makerspace) and was very impressed. Trustee Furth said the presentation would be on the WLS website in a week and she recommended it. Trustee Furth noted that White Plains was one of five libraries in Westchester that has Makerspace technology. Library Director Kenney will have a demo on new technology in The Edge at the next meeting.

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Friends –(none)

Foundation –Ms. Hollahan distributed the citywide newsletter that was mailed out to White Plains residents and also discussed the Dough Raiser event that was taking place tomorrow to raise funds to support the Trove. Ms. Hollahan also discussed the plans for the Gala, Spelling Bee and gave an update on her grant work.

Other –

Ongoing Business:

Assistant Library Director Degyansky stated that four volunteer orientations had been held and 16 people attended. Ten people applied and four had accepted assignments. Ms. Degyansky further stated that the Collection Management volunteer took a full-time job and had resigned. She noted that the next orientations were on October 23 at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. and she was trying to target program presenters and volunteers to help with Edge homework and Homebound Services. Trustee Furth asked if we delivered books to nursing homes and Ms. Degyansky remarked that some assisted living communities come to the library to get books. Library Director Kenney stated that two volunteers helped with the English Conversation class so that we now typically have around 18 people divided into two groups which make it more beneficial to the participants. Mr. Kenney also noted that volunteers helped with summer cinema program and it was very successful.

Library Director Kenney discussed the status of the Community Media RFP. The Board discussed several concerns regarding the mission and objectives, potential conflicts on objectives with Mr. Kenney. Trustee D'Ambrosio encouraged the Board to review the RFP before submission and Mr. Kenney agreed to email the RFP to the Board as well as discuss it at the next meeting. Library Director Kenney did note that the inclusion of the cable studio inside the library would have been beneficial with The Edge programs this summer vs. using the Eastview studios.

New Business:

On a MOTION by Trustee Furth, seconded by Trustee Connors, the personnel additions/deletions from July 1-September 30, 2014 were approved.

Library Director Kenney pointed out that Overdrive (our ebook vendor) now has Simon & Shuster titles available. Mr. Kenney stated that the biggest difference is the new “buy it now” button that accompanies S&S, and other, titles; this may lead to confusion among users who might believe that they need to purchase ebooks, and not borrow them. The “buy it now” button is a requirement on the part of the publisher for libraries to offer S&S content. Library Director Kenney commented that WLS has already implemented this; Trustee Furth remarked that she would bring it up with the WLS Board.

Library Director Kenney reviewed the WLS statistics (comparison data) document which he received yesterday with the Board.

President Schwarz noted that he and Trustee Furth gave Library Director Kenney his evaluation yesterday and remarked the Board was very happy with Library Director Kenney. Trustee Furth noted that the Board felt underused sometimes and felt the Board needed to set goals together with the director and brainstorm ways to achieve these goals. Trustee Furth suggested the first thing to do was join the Library Association which dues were \$425 a year based on the library's

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size (refer to membership dues page which was distributed). Ms. Furth stated that the last time we were members was in 2008 but due to budget constraints were unable to rejoin. Trustee Furth asked the Board where we go to get the money for membership and asked board members to look at the website and make an informed decision. President Schwarz requested that this topic be put on the agenda next month so that it could be discussed and voted on in November.

Adjournment

There being no more business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on a MOTION by Trustee James, seconded by Trustee Haynes.

Yuki Haynes, Secretary
Library Board of Trustees