

Memo to: White Plains Public Library Board of Trustees
From: Libby Hollahan
Date: Nov. 5, 2014
Re: Library Foundation Report

Fundraising:

Our fundraising for Phase II, the Hope & John Furth Learning Commons, is continuing. We have raised \$95,000 for this area so far. Following the Gala, we will plan next steps for our Campaign. The Foundation annual appeal will go out in late November.

Grants:

--Shinnyo-en Foundation: Part of our current "Collaborative Grant Program," there will be a Teen Community Service Film Festival on Thurs. Nov. 20, 7 pm in The Edge, and I hope trustees will join us. It will showcase the teen PSAs made in our summer TV production workshop, and include a community service activity benefiting Meals on Wheels of White Plains.

I have begun discussions with Shinnyo-en Foundation for a second year of funding for the Collaborative Grant program. Grant amount will be around the same amount (\$22,800 this year) and is expected to include support for participation in the spring National Service Learning Conference and the summer Shinnyo-en Annual Retreat. Our Shinnyo-en Edge grant (\$50,000) wraps up November 30, and provided \$29,000 for technology, \$15,000 for furnishings, and \$6,000 for programs.

--Allstate: Our grant check for 2015 has been received (\$35,000). For 2015, the grant will cover a full calendar year of Job Club and career programs (part of the economic empowerment focus area), as well as a continuation of teen safe driving programs.

--Target: We received a grant of \$2,000 as part of Target's Early Reading initiative. The grant program is "Common Core Bag-A-Tales;" it includes buying new science and math themed books for the Trove's book bags that are circulated as a set with teaching materials, and family reading activities based around science themes during the year.

Events: Our inaugural "Library Dough Raiser" took place on October 9. Thirteen White Plains restaurants participated, and Foundation board members as well as Gala committee members signed up for the various restaurants to make sure all were covered. Proceeds were \$1500, which will be used for The Trove.

November 8: **Ninth Annual Fall Gala: Stories to Inspire Us** I will give a report at the meeting.

Plans for our inaugural **Spelling Bee** are underway; Beth Roach and Beth Kava will co-chair. Modeled after Scarsdale Library's event. Scheduled for Friday, Feb. 27, 2015 (snow date Friday, March 6, 2015) at Highlands auditorium. We are reaching out to a celebrity emcee and judges, and will begin recruiting teams of spellers shortly. This event will also raise funds for The Trove's 10th birthday.

**White Plains Library Foundation
Minutes of Board of Directors Regular Meeting
September 17, 2014**

The regular meeting of the White Plains Library Foundation Board of Directors was called to order by President Nick Wolff at 9:07 a.m. in Galaxy Hall at the White Plains Public Library. Directors in attendance were: Denise D'Ambrosio, Yuki Haynes, Richard Hecht, Susan Hecht, Gregory Keenan, Brian Kenney, Barbara Loucks, Joan Kass, Beth Kava, Marjolein Mooney, Paul Schwarz, Diane Tabakman and Nick Wolff. Absent with notice were Jim Benerofe, Richard Kaye, G. Frederick Perkins, Jr., Gail Schwartz, J. Frederick Singleton, and Assistant Library Director Kathy Degyansky. Also present were Foundation Executive Director Libby Hollahan, and Secretary to the Library Director, Sandra McDaniel.

Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 23, 2014

The minutes of the regular meeting of July 23, 2014 were approved on a MOTION by Greg Keenan, seconded by Susan Hecht.

President's Report

President Wolff remarked that the Libby would be polling the Directors for suggestions for evening times to accommodate members who have difficulty attending morning meetings and to help in our effort to recruit Board members who work full time. President Wolff noted that he and Susan Hecht attended the Trio d'Ete concert on Sunday, September 14th and that it was well attended (about 60 people) by diverse individuals.

Library Director's Report

Mr. Kenney commented that the summer programming was successful and it was the first time the library had full programming for teens, with most of the funding from Foundation grants from Shinnyo-en Foundation and Walmart Foundation. Teen programming included a TV production workshop, sewing classes, and numerous programs developed and implemented by Edge staff. Mr. Kenney remarked that the library had won a NYLA award for best new facility for The Edge.

Mr. Kenney noted that there were two recent retirements; Elizabeth Hughes and Miriam Varian and that he had hired two new librarians –Kathlyn Carroll (for The Edge, where more staff was needed) and Ben Himmelfarb, a recent graduate with a local history degree as well as a lot of digital experience.

Library Director Kenney stated that his focus would be on building support for the Learning Commons.

Committee Reports

Mr. Keenan gave an update on the Dough Raiser event and asked for support with regard to the Journal News and Ms. Tabakman agreed to reach out to Gary Stern of the Journal News in the hope that an article could be printed about the event. Ms. Hollahan stated that an article about the Dough Raiser, along with restaurant list and voucher, was in the City wide newsletter. Ms. D'Ambrosio suggested the event be published on the digital boards around the City. Mr. Keenan thanked BLT Steak for sending a \$500 donation in support of the Dough Raiser and Ms. Hollahan for all her hard work on the newsletter.

In Mr. Singleton's absence, Ms. Hollahan gave an update on the Gala and stated that the Save the Date cards had been mailed out, the invitations would be mailed out next week and the raffle and silent auction were coming together.

Ms. Hollahan noted that the Spelling Bee Committee had postponed their meeting but were setting up another date. Ms. Mooney would like to participate on the committee if her schedule permits.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Hollahan advised the Board that all Campaign pledge payments were on schedule. She noted that gifts and pledges for the Hope & John Furth Learning Commons total \$95,000, including \$50,000 in total from Ms. Furth's contacts. Ms. Hollahan reminded the Board that the Shinnyo-en Foundation was having their Floating Lantern Ceremony on September 21st and thanked Ms. Haynes and Mr. Keenan for volunteering to represent the Foundation at this event.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Hollahan presented a preliminary view of the restricted account analysis. Mr. Hecht and Ms. Hollahan agreed to reconfigure the spreadsheet to accurately reflect items that were previously funded by restricted funds and would now need another source of funding (i.e., tutor.com).

Mr. Hecht discussed the Finance Committee Meeting notes, including Ms. D'Ambrosio's recommendations based on her review of the Reader's Digest endowment documentation. Mr. Hecht concluded that the endowment income, which is primarily used to buy books, would be invested to generate as much income as possible. President Wolff thanked Mr. Hecht thanked Ms. D'Ambrosio for her invaluable help.

On a MOTION by Diane Tabakman, seconded by Yuki Haynes, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

/s/ Nick Wolff
Nicholas Wolff, President/Secretary