

Chester Library Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting, June 17, 2019

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1. Call to Order

The Chester Library Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Monday, June 17, 2019, at the Chester Public Library, 21 West Main Street, Chester, Connecticut. In attendance were Sandy Senior-Dauer, Terry Schreiber, Karin Badger and Abbi Rice. Others present included Stephanie Romano (Library Director), Lauren Gister (First Selectwoman) and Jen Rice. Vice Chairman Senior-Dauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Secretary's Report

Motion by Schreiber, second by Badger, to approve May 20, 2019 Minutes amended as follows – Delete bathroom construction was reviewed as noted in the Librarian's Report. Unanimously Approved.

3. Treasurer's Report – no report.

4. Librarian's Report

Director Romano reported on the following items –

- 13 new library cards issued to Chester residents.
- Library hosted 13 programs – 7 children and 6 adults with a total attendance of 142 people.
- Summer reading kick-off with Animal Embassy at the Meeting House on June 25th.
- Monthly Statistical Report for May 2019 was distributed.
- Director Romano noted she will be meeting with The Friends next week to talk about their budget.

5. State Grant Discussion

Director Romano noted she would like to see a grant for \$5000 for carpeting, floor, new shelves, new bathroom vanity, etc., things that could be done right away. Sandy Senior-Dauer will do a \$5000 grant write.

Karin Badger noted it would be prudent to get a cost estimate from John Schroeder on his plan.

First Selectwoman Gister noted if something can be done without bonding that would be good. You can't go out and raise money without having a project. We need the idea first, then how much money can we come up with from whatever sources.

There was further discussion about things that could be done to the existing library. We should get a hard copy of the previous plans.

It was noted the State Grant is off the table.

It was decided no meeting in July, but we should get a hard copy of Schroeder's plan for the August meeting.

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6. Intern Discussion

Director Romano noted Danny is eager to learn and do things. He helps with crafts and reading programs. Works 3 to 4 hours a day – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

7. Long Range Plan

Vice Chairman Senior-Dauer noted the Notice of Intent is due on the 30th and there needs to be a specific plan. She didn't see getting a new library in the foreseeable future. She would like to see something happen with the existing library. Maybe previous plans of John Schroeder and David ? can be reconsidered. She would like to see handicap access and restrooms. It was noted come November over half the Board will be turned over. Maybe a decision should wait until after the Election.

8. Hotspots & Web Design

Director Romano noted the only library that offers Hot Spots locally is the Brainerd Library and they are checked out most of the time. They use them for programs where WiFi is not available.

Studio Ten is working on a preliminary website and will send a quote. Jan and Peter Good had some great ideas and a few sketches on paper but will collaborate on ideas and present something when they are finished.

9. New Business

There was discussion regarding Board membership.

Karin Badger noted there were no outstanding OSHA violations at the library.

It was noted Linda Fox sent an email regarding the upkeep of the pear tree for Sue Nesler's mother. It was damaged during the March snowstorms last year. Perhaps it should be replaced with a new tree.

Director Romano noted an item for the August agenda would be CD rates. They change every Tuesday.

Vice Chairman Senior-Dauer invited everyone to the band at the Gazebo on Friday 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Bring a dish and chairs.

10. Audience of Citizens – none.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Badger, second by Schreiber, to adjourn at 8:15 PM. Unanimously Approved.

Judith R. Brown

Respectfully submitted,

Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary