

Minutes Southold Free Library Trustees Meeting. December 16 2020

Meeting opened: at 6:31pm via ZOOM

Present: David Robinson (President), Caroline MacArthur (Director), Bridget Rymer, Larry Jungblut, Mark Heidemann, Martin Faint, Heather Romanelli, Chris Gallagher, Lisa Davidoff and Nicolas Antonucci.

Penny Kelley present from public.

All library trustees, including new trustees — Lisa and Nicolas — introduced themselves.

Minutes of November 2020 meeting were approved. Larry moved to approve. Chris seconded. Approved.

Warrants

Larry reviewed October and November warrants. Heather moved to accept, David seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report

Report was received.

Director's Report

Caroline had emailed out the packet. Bridget commented that it was informative that young adults are eager to grab physical go-bags of materials as somewhat tired of online meetings. Bridget asked if there is a way to bring people back in, perhaps by sharing creations as there is a need to give young patrons enriching experiences.

Penny said she is discussing this with other local libraries, and they are all seeing screen fatigue amongst patrons. Dungeons and Dragons is proving popular. Penny has been speaking to the school librarian about strategies to continue to keep young people engaged. Penny is being trained in the hit game "Among Us".

Committee positions were discussed (see end of minutes). David stated that new trustees will get the chance to revisit their committee placements after several months to give a broad overview of the board.

Finance

No report

Policy

No report

Personnel

No report

Long Range Planning

No report

Grants

Chris asked Caroline to share a grant application she has been participating in.

As per the director's report, Jan Nicholson approached Caroline and let Caroline know about a North Fork community fund she co-runs that helps non-profits thrive. She mentioned a \$5000 grant to allow social work program to be more accessible to non-native English speakers. This is in line with the long range plan.

Buildings and Grounds

The ramp has been repaired satisfactorily.

Chris Mohr's winter clean up bids were approved. Prices were in line with last year's.

Marketing

Bridget updated the board on website analytics. Users are up 12 per cent year on year, page views are up almost 25 per cent. They are also spending 20 per cent longer. Bridget noted these are all positive trends. She predicts COVID will continue to influence long-term site usage. Male users, and 18-24 year olds, and 65+ have also grown in number.

Bridget wonders if we should consider housing some of the content on the site, such as stories. For example perhaps we could have a story-telling page on the site. Caroline stated Dana has researched some issues relating to copyright, when it comes to posting and sharing material.

Nominating.

The committee has continued its search and has one person in the bank from last month. They interviewed another candidate this month, and will continue to search for a stable of recruits.

Old Business

None

New Business

Larry said we should consider installing a brick in memory of Maureen Ostermann. Exact wording to be decided. Chris moved, Heather seconded. Approved.

Mark brought up that he feels we need to get the paintings up on the wall. He feels getting color on the walls will help keep people in the library. Mark also noticed that the windows are looking unclean and we should have someone come in to close up storms. Caroline noted with COVID the library needs to maintain the flexibility to open windows.

The question was raised who is to hang the paintings. Mark volunteered his painting-hanging services. Vincent had mentioned he had been willing to lend his opinion on picture placement. Caroline said she would like to place some historic maps in history room alongside other colorful paintings.

Heather motioned to close, Mark seconded

Meeting adjourned at 7.09PM. pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Faint

Temporary Secretary

Committees 2020-21

Long Range Planning

Chris--chair
Mark
Caroline

Policy

Martin-chair
Nic
Caroline

Finance

Larry-chair
Heather
Lisa
Caroline

Personnel

Mark—chair
Lisa
Caroline

Building and Grounds

Martin—chair
Nic
Caroline

Marketing

Bridget
Caroline

Nominating

Bridget
Mark

Grants

Chris
Nic
Caroline

Fundraising

TBD