

## **Minutes Southold Free Library Trustees Meeting. January 27th 2021**

**Meeting opened:** at 6.30PM 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.

No public present.

Minutes of December 2020 meeting were approved. Heather moved to approve. Bridget seconded.

A calendar of board business has been sent to the board to help guide board business over the year.

### **Warrants**

Bridget reviewed December warrants. Bridget moved to accept, Mark seconded. Approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

As submitted to the committee. No questions.

### **Director's Report**

Nothing to add to the report in the packet. No report.

### **Finance**

Preliminary budget discussions were held the other day. Discussed whether to go for tax cap or the special NYS allowance for libraries. We will also need to consider the Southold school budget (meeting is being held tonight). The committee will see what the school budget is before discussing budget further.

Caroline had calculated the budget increase based on the the tax cap number:

- 1.23% maximum allowable tax cap increase
- 1.0069% (tax based growth factor)

The sum of the two (2.2369%) equals the maximum increase to the budget (\$20,900).

### **Policy**

No report

### **Personnel**

No report.

### **Long Range Planning**

No report.

### **Grants**

No report.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

This month a tree fell down and was cleared up by Chris Mohr at the East retaining wall. It was noted the retaining wall between the two library properties is an issue that should be looked at when budget allows.

This month the committee elected not to do the fall cleanup from Chris Mohr, as it was not presented to the library until January and the present conditions of the grounds are considered good.

**Marketing**

No report.

**Nominating.**

No report

**Old Business**

Caroline met with Vincent to discuss where to hang some historic paintings; Mark and Nic will be hanging them next week with Caroline.

**New Business**

A first conversation was held on the budget: We are waiting to hear from school on their budget proposal. Chris would like to see the effect on the library operations of different budget scenarios. Mark would like to maximize budget within the cap, he thinks we still have a lot to do. Larry suggests we have to be careful of what we request as people are still financially struggling. Bridget said we understand concerns over the finances and agrees a full raise may not be appropriate. Martin said given the failure to raise last time we want to avoid the compounded affect of a lack of raises. Lisa fears we may be under resourced once we open up again more fully without a strong raise. Chris brought up the packages in Congress that may result in state aid to libraries — it is possible the situation may be better, or worse. Caroline says the state budget will see a cut in aid to libraries. David believes a smaller raise compounds forward and we need the maximum budget raise this year following last year's zero raise.

Heather motioned to close, Nic seconded

Meeting adjourned at 6.51PM. pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Faint

Secretary