

Bethlehem Public Library Trustee Minutes – February 8th, 2021

Members Present: Doug Harman, Nora Clark, Tana LeClair, Barbara Szeidler, Lisa Ffrench, Len Grubbs, Mike Culver, Sara Plumley

Public: David Van Houten

Librarian Present: Laura Clerkin

Meeting Commenced at 7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes as written; the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

As of one month into 2021, the budget is favorable by about \$1,900.

Barbara suggested that, in lieu of signing the monthly reports during the pandemic, a vote will be held at each meeting moving forward. Sara seconded the motion; it was accepted unanimously.

Old Business

Nothing to report.

New Business

David van Houten attended the meeting virtually to discuss the current solar project in town. He said the goal is to get all town buildings on clean energy. The benefit to the library would be a lower electric bill. They have received a USDA grant and will have more information going forward. David van Houten can be contacted with any questions.

Committees

HR - Annual reviews will be modified due to pandemic closures. They will be reworked and sent out to the trustees at a later date.

Finance – Len mentioned that he is keeping an eye on the proposed federal stimulus bill; specifically, the minimum wage change and its potential impact on the library budget.

Buildings and Grounds – Nothing to report.

Technology – Nothing to report.

Bylaws and Policies – Nothing to report.

Librarian's Report

A check for \$1,400 was mailed to the Board of Selectmen; this was a return from last year's favorable budget.

Deliberative session has been pushed to June 4th, 2021; it will be held at Profile School.

Elections have been rescheduled for July 13th, 2021; they will be held at the town hall. Trustees up for reelection will hold their current positions until then.

The library's contract with Irving Propane ended on January 31st; Laura signed a short term contract that started February 1st, 2021 and will expire on April 30th, 2021. This will then give her the whole summer to research other reasonable rates.

The staff have been doing retraining for the past four Mondays. It seems to be helpful. The staff have been asking about the plan for reopening the library to the public. Laura would like to wait at least two weeks to

make sure that numbers stay low (in the 1-4 case range) after the recent spike.

The staff are planning to meet later this week to start brainstorming for this year's Summer Reading Program.

They would also like to order new pieces for their die cut machine; the bill would come to about \$900 and plan to ask the Friends of the Library to pay for it. Nora made a motion to accept this, with Len seconding; the motion passed unanimously.

Len made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm. The motion was seconded by Nora and accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Tana LeClair