



Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board

**Cheshire Public Library
104 Main Street
Cheshire, CT 06410**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: January 23, 2017

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board was called to order by Dalena DeSena at 7:00 p.m. in the Evelyn Moss Room of the library.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present:

Ramona Burkey, Library Director (ex officio)
Dalena DeSena, Vice Chair
Terry Grahame, Treasurer
Tod Dixon, Secretary
Mark Hostage

Members absent:

Carol DiPietro, Chair
Kathleen Nankin
James Conroy

Mrs. Burkey introduced Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morck (Debra) to the Library Board Members. Mr. Morck is Vice-President of The Friends and Mrs. Morck is the Membership Chair. Together they chair, *the always successful*, Friends of the Library annual Book Sale.

II. Approval of Minutes from December 19, 2016

Mrs. Grahame made a motion to accept the minutes from December 19, 2016 as posted. Mr. Dixon seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Grahame reported that the current dollar amount in the library board budget is \$501.00.

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IV. Communications

There was nothing to report.

V. Report of the Chair

Mrs. DiPietro is away until April so there was no Report of the Chair.

Mrs. DeSena wished the Board members a happy new year.

VI. Report of the Library Director

Programs and Services

Mrs. Burkey reported that the new Welcome Desk is a success. Many patrons comment on how they like seeing a smiling, helpful staff member as soon as they enter the library. Our second annual Preschool Fair will be held on Saturday, February 2 starting at 1:00 p.m. Parents looking for child care options will have the opportunity to meet staff from local preschools and daycares to learn more about their program offerings. We'll be partnering with faculty from Cheshire High School this year to work on a program encouraging civic engagement and civil discourse. This comes as a result of this year's election. Staff members and I will soon be meeting with Timothy Galvin, a Civics teacher at CHS, to discuss ways of getting students involved in fostering community engagement by residents of all ages.

Personnel

The Library union voted to approve the bargaining unit contract on January 13; it now will go to the Town Council for a vote.

Financials

The Fiscal Year 2017-2018 operating budget was submitted to the Town Manager on 1/20. The request does not include any new staff positions. I did request funding to replace our two lobby self-checks, which are nearing end-of-life, and to add one self-check for the Children's Room, per patron requests. Other requests include additional funds in the Property Maintenance line, to accommodate more frequent pest inspections as well as emergency restroom cleanings. In the Public Property budget, the replacement of cracked/broken sidewalk panels on the Main Street side of the building has been requested, and the replacement of some decades-old restroom fixtures.

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Buildings and Grounds

Last week, the Public Works Department altered the fence between the Library parking lot and that of the Cheshire Pizza and Ale plaza, creating a pedestrian walkway between the two properties. This comes after months of research on property lines and a written agreement between the Town and the owner of the Cheshire Pizza and Ale plaza.

Policies and Planning

We continue planning for Phase 2 of the library reconfiguration project.

Respectfully Submitted, Ramona Burkey, Library Director

Please see our monthly calendar at www.cheshirelibrary.org for a full listing of library programs and events.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was nothing to report.

VIII. New Business

Lucas Franklin--"EXCITE Innovate" library transformation program training --
Community Connection Program

Lucas Franklin from the Children's Library said that this is a statewide program to get communities more involved by thinking outside the box. It is an outreach program those who are retired (60 years old+) to best utilize their skills as volunteers. Skills will be assessed and best matched with agencies in town that need help. The Community Connection Program will meet monthly. Mr. Franklin will present an outline of this program in front of a panel next week to try to raise money (LSTA) to support it. There will be a social aspect to the program with food/refreshments, meet and greets, skills pot luck and brainstorming. Mr. Franklin will attend next month's Board meeting to continue this discussion.

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IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by general consensus of the board at 7:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board will be held on Monday, February 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Evelyn Moss Room at the Cheshire Public Library, 104 Main Street, Cheshire. Please notify Ramona Burkey at 203-272-2245 or Carol DiPietro at 203-272-9215 in advance if you are unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Guite, Recording Secretary