



Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: February 22, 2016

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board was called to order by Dalena DeSena at 7:22 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, Treasurer
Tod Dixon
Terry Grahame
Liz Linehan, Town Council Liaison

Members absent:

Carol DiPietro, Chair
Mark Hostage

II. Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2015; November 16, 2015; and December 21, 2015, and January 2016:

Minutes could not be voted on due to the lack of a quorum. The Board tabled the vote on the minutes until the next meeting.

III. Treasurer's Report

Mrs. DeSena reported that the current dollar amount in the library board budget is \$245.00.

\$400.00 will be added back from a closed purchase order, bringing the total amount to \$645.00.

The total budgeted amount for this fiscal year is \$1,600.00.

IV. Communications

A Board meeting in March will be determined by the board members prior to the meeting date. Mrs. Burkey does not anticipate a lot of business activity taking place. A slate of officers will be voted on in April, per the board's bylaws. The board is down one member; a replacement for Craig Wilson is needed.

V. Report of the Chair – Dalena DeSena, Acting Chair

Mrs. DeSena shared a book with the Library Board members and appreciated the fact that this book is in circulation at the Library.

Liz Linehan arrived at 7:30 p.m. She was introduced to the board members by Mrs. Burkey.

VI. Report of the Library Director – Ramona Burkey presented her report.

Technology

Programs and Services

Circulation for January 2016 was 32,024 items. This amount is where it was in 2007 prior to the recession. This amount is down from the previous year however IT usage is up in all areas; data usage, Netflix, wireless usage, computer usage, etc. In addition, there is competition with eBooks and the supply cannot be met with all that people want and need.

Ms. Linehan asked if the library is budgeting for more digital books.

Mrs. Burkey replied “absolutely.” Purchases currently being made are for hard cover, large print, CD books, downloadable audio, and eBooks (costing up to \$300.00 per title. The number of formats for one title may require spending hundreds of dollars. Tough choices will be made to determine what books will get the most use.

The South Asian Cultural Festival will take place in February and March, in conjunction with Artsplace. Programs will include movie screenings, cooking demonstrations, art and puppet-making workshops, concerts and much more (final brochure was shared). The event is being organized by Deb Rutter, Deputy Library Director.

This year's first-ever Preschool Fair was a huge success. The 2017 preschool fair may be held at Artsplace due to parking and because it has a large auditorium to accommodate attendees. Artsplace will enjoy the traffic that the activities will bring.

Lucas Franklin, Head of Children's Services, will be re-introduced to the board in April as many are new members. He will discuss changes in programs and community outreach activities.

The Children's Department won the Youth Development Award from the Cheshire Community YMCA and will be recognized at the Y's annual dinner on March 16. Mrs. Burkey read the award letter aloud to the board members.

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

Personnel

The Senior Librarian position (35 hours/week) is being advertised and receiving responses. This is Gail Roberts' former position; Gail retired after 36 years of service. March 4, 2016 is the application deadline. Anna Korkus will begin as the new part-time Reference and Adult Services Librarian on February 29, 2016. This is a 20 hour per week position.

Ms. Linehan commended Mrs. Burkey on her ability to recognize skill sets, applying them to closely matched positions and saving money in the process.

Financial

Mrs. Burkey will be meeting with the Town Manager on February 23, 2016. Budget requests will be discussed during this meeting.

Buildings and Grounds

Improvements to the Main Street sidewalks and steps will be made in the spring. Public Works has been asked to paint the Mary Baldwin Room (a neutral color) this spring.

Policies and Planning

None.

Artsplace

The 200th birthday celebration for John Frederick Kensett, Cheshire's most famous artist, will take place on March 20, 2016 at 4:00pm. In the celebration will be a volcano made by the Burkey family and refreshments including a Kensett cocktail. Please see the CPFA-Artsplace website (www.cdfa-artsplace.org) for a full listing of Kensett programs.

Other

None.

VII. Unfinished Business

None.

VIII. New Business

None.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by general consensus of the board at 8:08 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board will be held on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Evelyn Moss Room at the Cheshire Public Library, 104 Main Street, Cheshire. Please notify Ramona Burkey in advance if you are unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Guite
Recording Secretary