Library Board of Trustee Minutes from the Meeting on February 12, 2024

Call to Order: Pritchard called the meeting to order at 4:02pm in the absence of President Shirk.

Announcement of Compliance with OPML: Notice of this meeting was included in the annual schedule of meetings that was approved by the Board of Trustees at their monthly meeting on Monday, December 12, 2023. The annual schedule of meetings was advertised in the January 03, 2024 Ocean City Sentinel and the January 06, 2024 AC Press, posted on the Library’s website, on bulletin boards inside the Library and in the City Clerk’s office.

Attendance: Fred Marcell, Dr. Pritchard, Lauren Cowden, Mike Dattilo, Ron Denney(4:07pm), Mike Allegretto, Karen Mahar, Kathryn Brown, Steve Barse.

Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made by Allegretto to approve the regular minutes from the January 2024 meeting with a second from Cowden. All present were in favor.

Treasurer’s Report: Pritchard reviewed the report noting the receipt of a bequest from 2023. She reminded members that they are looking at approximately one-quarter of the actual budget as the operating budget has not yet been approved. (See motion below)

Action on Bills: Pritchard reviewed the bills noting one payroll check to be signed which does not appear on the bill list.

With no questions, a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report and pay the bills was made by Allegretto and seconded by Cowden. All present were in favor of the motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report by roll call and all present were in favor by roll call to pay the bills.

President’s Report: None.

Director’s Report: Mahar distributed information on upcoming programs at the Library. The Senior Center is doing well upon takeover by the City. Active Shooter meetings and drills will begin soon. The Bookmobile continues its stops, and a new outer wrapping is being considered to remedy the rust and peeling decals. An OPRA request regarding charges for copies has been fulfilled.

A. Personnel: There is currently an ad for a part-time Library Assistant paying $15.13/hour. (min. wage)

Communications/Correspondence: None.

Friends and Volunteers Report: President Wilson requested a light outage be repaired in the sorting room. Jane Rubino will be the featured author at Dessert Tea and Lisa Scottoline for the Fall Luncheon. Scottoline requested that the Library store books for the program. The Dollar Cart, now including children’s books and puzzles, earned over $500 for the month of January. A Book Sale is scheduled for March 15th and 16th.

Members are currently packing bags for Read Across America and the Third Grade Reading Club is going well. A two-day writing workshop is planned for 5th and 7th graders. Two donations will be made to the library in memory of members who have passed.

Building Issues: There are no leaks. The bid for HVAC work has been awarded. There has been no word from Bill McLees regarding renovations. Repairs or replacements are to be made to the signage and ramp lighting. New furnishings are being considered for the café and Senior Center.


New Business: A. By-Law Revisions: Barse reviewed potential changes and updates to the by-laws. After some discussion, it was determined that changes cannot be voted upon at this time as the item must appear on the agenda for two consecutive meetings prior to a vote. A vote is anticipated at the March 2024 meeting.

Public Comment: None.

(Marcell Excused- must be present in-person to participate in Closed Session)
Authorization To Enter Closed Executive session to Discuss CWA Negotiations and to Discuss Wage Increases for Non-Union Employees: Dattilo moved to enter closed session to discuss CWA negotiations and wage increases for non-union employees with no action to be taken at 4:40pm with a second from Allegretto, all present were in favor.
(Allegretto was excused at approximately 5:10pm)

Cowden moved to exit executive session and re-enter regular session at 5:22pm with a second from Denney, all present were in favor.

Adjournment: Cowden moved to adjourn at 5:22pm with a second from Denney. All present were in favor.