

Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees

April 11, 2016

In attendance were: Barbara Braun, Marie Hanlon, Warren Harris, Robert Heyliger, Zoltan Horvath, Joanne Miano, Allen Saslowsky, Kathleen Scordato

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library, Abby Lundy, Council Liaison

Excused: Barbara Wertheim

Ms. Braun, President, called to order a meeting of the Trustees of the Free Public Library of Hillsdale, Bergen County, New Jersey. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the newspaper of record, filed with the Borough Clerk, and posted on the Library's website and bulletin board, in accordance with the Open Public Meeting's Law.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM. The Board reviewed the March minutes. Mr. Horvath made a motion to accept the March minutes, Mr. Saslowsky seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: Ms. Braun acknowledged the guests here this evening and she turned the meeting over to Mr. Gary Weir, President of *The Friends*. *The Friends* like to encourage creativity and Mr. Weir and Mr. Franz thanked all of the participants for their creative participation in the recent NJ Makers Day event. All awardees were given gift certificates courtesy of *The Friends*. Mr. Franz thanked everyone for supporting this program, and the community's creative spirit. Other participants included The Lace Makers and Sylvan Learning of Hillsdale (robotics exhibition). Hillsdale Library was one of 262 sites hosting NJ Makers Day events; Hillsdale was a founding committee member. The range of creativity was amazing and everyone got a resounding round of applause! Best in Show went to Collin Tofts for the Color Sensing Robot which he created to assist children with color blindness.

The Friends: Mr. Weir: Thanks to the Atchison Family donation, *The Friends* have been instrumental in providing a number of programs and awards at the Library. They've raised over \$4,000 during their recent drive. Larger donors are being targeted for named gifts. *The Friends* have a new Treasurer. They meet semi-annually.

President's Report: Ms. Braun:

- ❖ Ms. Braun underscored how wonderful the Maker Day was. The lacemaking was beautiful and the Library was buzzing with visitors and participants throughout the day.
- ❖ There hasn't been any new development with the adjoining property. Mr. Horvath will speak with Chris Statile at an upcoming meeting this Thursday.
- ❖ This is National Library Week.
- ❖ She asked if anyone came up with ideas for the Library's participation for Hillsdale Day in June. Board members were asked about their availability between 12:00 – 5:00 to assist with the table. The Library would like to survey residents that day about Library services and what suggestions they would like to see offered.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Miano: The Library is fiscally sound. Currently, we are running about even with balance to expenditures. We have \$64,000 in our reserve account. Mr. Franz would like to put \$50,000 into the NJ Cash Management Account where we would accrue some interest.

Mr. Horvath made a motion to move said monies, Ms. Miano seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Director's Report: Mr. Franz:

- ❖ Mr. Franz is still awaiting a download of statistical data from BCCLS; there are three major vacancies in the BCCLS office.
- ❖ An outside utility company, Troy Banks, will be reviewing our utilities bills for correctness.
- ❖ Jane O'Brien submitted her resignation, so there is a vacancy for a Library Assistant as well as a Sunday Librarian.
- ❖ The fencing around the dumpsters has begun.
- ❖ Two of the rest room toilets are problematic (American Standard) as they don't flush with enough pressure. Mr. Horvath spoke about some remedies and he offered to look at them.
- ❖ Mr. Franz is the chair of the BCCLS Strategic Plan Taskforce and he will be attending 6 small group meetings within a month.
- ❖ The Library exterior needs power washing. It also needs some exterior painting.
- ❖ There was a discussion about the gravel section of the parking lot and FEMA's mandates for water drainage in the parking lot.

Policy Reviews

- ❖ Internet Policy: The current policy was approved in 2002. Mr. Franz is recommending simplifying it. We need to keep the child safety, the disclaimer, the statement on offensive materials and that the staff has a right to end a session at any time. Mr. Franz distributed Mahwah's policy which was based on Teaneck's policy. He also looked at Princeton's policy from 2008. Mr. Franz and Board members discussed our current policy in detail. Ms. Braun suggested using Mahwah's policy as a template to make revisions. Board members are asked to email suggestions to Mr. Franz before the next meeting.
- ❖ Strategic Plan: Ms. Braun suggested gathering information to guide our trajectory for the next five years. A discussion ensued as to how to get feedback from residents and developing focus questions that would engender the most useful information. Using Facebook and other social media would be excellent. It was also suggested to set up at the local supermarkets and ballfields. For the next meeting, Mr. Harris suggested storyboarding salient ideas. Different demographics need tailored questionnaires.

New Business: Kathryn Ennist held her first Teen Advisory Group last week and there was an excellent and enthusiastic turnout.

The next Library Board meeting will be on May 9, 2016. Ms. Braun moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Heyliger. The meeting officially adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary