Hillsdale Free Public Library

Board of Trustees
February 10, 2014

In attendance were: Barbara Braun, Douglas Frank, Robert Hilfiger, Joanne Miano, Guy Mulé, Allen Saslowsky, Kathleen Scordato, Barbara Wertheim

Also present: David Franz, Director of the Library

Excused: Warren Harris

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 7:32 PM. The Board reviewed the January minutes. Ms. Scordato made a motion to accept the January minutes, Councilman Frank seconded. Unanimous vote of approval.

Public invited to speak: No one was present.

President’s Report: Ms. Braun: Ms. Braun spoke about Mr. Franz’s budget presentation to the Borough Finance Committee last Friday. Ms. Braun and Mr. Mulé were present. There is a $30,000 difference between the 1/3 mil and what the Library’s budgetary request is. A Welcome Packet will be re-invigorated and the Council will welcome information from the Library. The town is reinstituting the glossy newsletter, My Hillsdale, in the Community Life to be issued quarterly. The Mayor agrees with the Board that the back gate be locked to prevent through traffic. Mr. Franz will put an FAQ on the Library website which will explain why the majority of the parking lot remains a gravel surface. There have been 600 downloads from Zinio, but there has been some confusion about the app and browser. Ms. Braun would like to explore fundraising ideas. Mr. Mulé said that a number of fundraising opportunities were discussed last year such as named bricks.

Treasurer’s Report: Mr. Mulé: The Library is fiscally sound and the checks have been signed. 14 vouchers were submitted to Woodcliff Lake at the end of January vs. 18 the previous year. He noted that there has been a large drop in spending on collection development from $100,000 to $65,000.

Director’s Report: Mr. Franz:

 Mr. Franz is very pleased to see how easy it is to use the 3-D printer and it was demonstrated to Board members at the conclusion of the meeting. Mr. Heyliger asked about the price of a roll; it is $42. per roll, 4 cents per gram. A good postage scale could be used to weigh the item and then charge by the gram. There are three settings for the granularity of the item: low, medium, and high resolution images.

 The Friends yearly fundraising mailing will be going out at the end of this week; 3,700 mailings.

 WL renewals: We will have to continually advertise this. A few new seniors took advantage of the senior’s discount.

 BCCLS has been in existence for 35 years.
Library page Dylan Riley is waiting for the Boy Scout Council to approve his Eagle project with the Maker Space. The Library will proceed with its Maker Faire launch on April 26. There will be photographs and press releases.

The BCCLS Executive Board held a hearing with the Ridgewood Library. They have been charging a fee to their patrons per item borrowed from other BCCLS libraries taken picked up in Ridgewood. This practice is a violation of current BCCLS By-laws.

Mr. Franz presented a draft of the annual report and he welcomes feedback within the week from Board members. It is very visual and simplified to read. Mr. Franz highlighted some excellent testimonials about the Library on p. 12. When finalized, it will be on the Library website.

Our collection circulation is significantly higher than some neighboring towns. Councilman Frank asked what accounts for that. We supply about 20% of Washington Township’s borrowing.

Councilman Frank and Mr. Franz said that any Library debt for capital projects cannot be part of the 1/3 mil. Mr. Franz explained some history of the Library debt incurred during the re-construction some years ago.

New Business: Ms. Miano said that Chico’s would like to host a fundraiser the end of March and 10% of sales would go to the Library. Ms. Wertheim said that some of the Hillsdale restaurants have done similar fundraisers for the local schools.

The Friends: No Friends were present.

The next Library Board meeting will be on March 10, 2014. Ms. Scordato moved to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Wertheim seconded. The meeting officially adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Danaher
Recording Secretary