

Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastchester Public Library
January 27, 2016

Present: Robert Cartolano (President), Library Director Tracy Wright, Astra Tudisco, Rosetta McArdle, Patrick Murtagh, Joseph Gresia and Darlene Reda. Recently appointed trustee, Susan Bauman, was present and welcomed to the Board. Councilman Luigi Marcoccia was also present and is the new library liaison. The Board thanked Councilman Bellitto for his service as the library's previous liaison.

The meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m.

The November 18, 2015 minutes were presented, reviewed and unanimously approved.

President's Report

President Cartolano informed the board that Library Advocacy Day is on March 2. WLS is counting on trustees and friends to go to Albany to advocate on behalf of libraries. Last year the grants available throughout the state amounted to roughly \$14 million, and that amount has been static the last few years.

Director's Report

The board voted on, and approved, the following five action items:

1. Elizabeth Portillo was hired as a librarian at a salary of \$58,170.
2. Lisa Iwagami was hired as a page at a rate of \$11/hour.
3. Kimberley George was hired as a page at a rate of \$8.50/hour.
4. Lothrop & Associates was retained for \$2000 to coordinate YA and Adult renovation projects.
5. Adjustment of part-time librarian salaries from \$24/hour to \$25/hour.

Johnson Chacko was selected as the first Outstanding Library Employee. Discussion ensued over what can be done legally/ethically to reward these employees.

Director Wright then discussed recommendations by the building committee. The committee suggested compiling a list of 10 potential projects for Capital Fund distribution. Items included the following:

1. Generator-- A generator would run around \$250,000 and would enable the library to serve as a haven during emergencies. Director Wright noted that we have no money now; although a generator is perfect for a grant application, how can we raise the other half needed to apply? President Cartolano asked whether we should submit a request for \$125,000 to the Town and then apply for grant for the other half, or should we go directly to the town for the full amount?

2. Shelving on the walls of the adult side. The current shelving is in poor condition. Director Wright is going to put together a proposal for shelving by Monday, February 1, the due date for the Capital Expense report.
3. Interior security cameras.
4. Bathroom upgrade (for the first floor handicapped bathroom).
5. Window replacement (using energy efficient, sound proof units) and window treatments. President Cartolano suggested getting a price, and looking for half to be funded through the state.

The Board then recommended three top needs and requests for Director Wright to submit: adult shelving (focusing on quality and safety); generator; and LED lighting for the lower level.

The Wine & Cheese is off the table for now; Director Wright is looking for other options.

An issue regarding snowstorms and parking was discussed. During storms, overnight parkers are not removing their cars in time for library patrons to use the spots. Additionally, the plows are not able to plow because the parked cars are blocking the spaces. Councilman Marcoccia suggested writing a letter to the Parking Committee detailing this problem.

Committee Reports

Building Committee: see above

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Trustee Murtagh informed the board that (past EPL board president) Helene Murtha has been named as the Grand Marshall in the St. Patrick's Day parade, and requested that library board members march in the parade on March 13.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene E. Reda