

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastchester Public Library
June 1, 2016**

Present: Library Director Tracy Wright, Robert Cartolano (President), Astra Tudisco, Rosetta McArdle, Susan Bauman, Patrick Murtagh and Darlene Reda.

Four students from Bronxville High School attended the meeting to fulfill a requirement for an Economics class.

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m.

The minutes from the February 24, 2016 and April 13, 2016 meetings were presented and reviewed. Both sets of minutes were unanimously approved.

President's Report

President Cartolano commented that the Town went “over and above” with respect to the new patio. Director Wright agreed that it was beautiful. She added that the Friends gave her money to purchase five tables. She also talked about purchasing umbrellas, but noted that they would have to be brought in every night. The board discussed the idea of putting out trash/recycling receptacles and installing security cameras. Trustee Murtagh suggested creating a decorative area made up of donated bricks, as has been done at the high school. President Cartolano asked for a list of donors of money and/or time so that the Board can thank them.

Director's Report

First on the agenda was a motion to approve the WLS Free Access Plan, which after discussion was unanimously approved by the board. Next on the agenda: how to sequence the work in the library to minimize disruption to patrons and agony to staff? Bids are still being received for carpeting; awaiting specs on lighting (since it will be more than \$35,000 it needs to go out to bid and will require an architect.) President Cartolano commented that the carpet and new YA furniture is a visible improvement to the library. Director Wright agreed but noted that the current lighting is dismal and desperately needs to be upgraded. President Cartolano suggested that if all goes according to plan, the work should be completed by Thanksgiving if not earlier.

Director Wright is also getting pricing on shelving. She noted that so much more could be done if she applied for a grant to double the money. She also discovered that work on a project can begin before applying for a grant in August; the work just cannot be finished before October when the grant goes to Albany. The current Fund balance is around \$215,000; Comptroller Donovan said that money should be used for emergencies. Trustee Murtagh suggested saving money by having an outside company install shelves. A couple of scenarios were then discussed. Trustee Murtagh proposed that Director Wright put together a grant package for NYS for approximately \$40,000 for lighting/shelving/exterior lighting on the lower level. President Cartolano noted that more money will be available this year through WLS thanks to a funding increase in the State budget. Director Wright will research and present information for a grant package at our next meeting on July 6.

More updates: the Building Committee met and compiled a 5-year plan for the library. The library's 50th anniversary will include two events: one, a small gathering for local dignitaries and press, to be held on the new patio; and two, a larger celebration later that evening at Mulino's at Lake Isle. Trustees McArdle, Bauman and Reda will meet separately with Director Wright to develop plans for these events. Long-range planning includes celebrating and reaffirming the value of libraries in Westchester County for the next 50 years. Trustees McArdle, Bauman and Reda will also discuss with Director Wright possible dates for the Wine & Cheese fundraiser.

The representative from GiveGab was unable to attend tonight's meeting; he will attend in July along with the President of the Friends. Director Wright then produced a bag of fresh food items, provided by Field Goods. The company would like to use the library as a drop-off location for its items, in exchange for which the library would make a small profit off of each bag. A motion to approve further investigation to determine whether Field Goods is a viable option as a small fundraiser was approved by a narrow margin. Trustee Murtagh likes that the library is being recognized as a focal point of the community.

Committee Reports

As noted above, the Building Committee met and put together a 5 year plan for the library.

New Business

Blinds/shades will need to be replaced throughout the library. Storage is also needed.

Old Business

Plans for EPL's 50th anniversary celebration are underway. The 2016 Friends' Event is scheduled for June 17 at 6:30; President Cartolano suggested that we present a gift to former Friends' president Vivian Zelvin to recognize her many years of service to the library. Each of the trustees contributed toward a gift for Vivian so that we can present her with a gift card and flowers at the Event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. Next meeting will be held on July 6, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene E. Reda