

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastchester Public Library
January 20, 2021—amended**

Present: Robert Cartolano (President), Library Director Tracy Wright, Rosetta McArdle, Astra Tudisco, Leslye Davidson, Jim Martin, Pat Murtagh and Darlene Reda. Councilman Luigi Marcoccia also joined the meeting.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board met via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:43 p.m. The November 19, 2021 minutes were presented, reviewed and unanimously approved.

President's Report

President Cartolano discussed provision of curbside-only services/keeping doors closed. Only 9 out of 38 libraries within the WLS are letting people in. EPL is averaging 1000 patrons/month curbside. Curbside service model seems to be the current gold standard and will remain that way until the COVID numbers start going down. He mentioned that the County is offering a zoom COVID discussion tomorrow evening.

Director's Report

Director Wright stated that the library's budget was cut by 10%. Councilman Marcoccia noted that some town employees took advantage of the retirement package; this helped with the budget and is good in the short-term, but at some point staff will have to be rehired.

In 2020, EPL circulated about 6000 books/month. Programming is going through the roof: comedy series, yoga, opera program and others have been extremely successful. The Friends will continue to give money for programming. AARP free tax return assistance will be done via scanners this year.

Issues persist with the handicapped bathroom and phone system.

Building Committee

Window Project: windows will take approximately 20- 24 weeks to come in. Bid was approved at last night's Town Board meeting. Project is being presented as two different aspects because two different grants are involved.

Handicapped Bathroom: all work stopped because of water leakage problem. After extensive investigation, the leakage points were finally discovered—point of entry is from building exterior. Trustee Murtagh suggested hiring an expert consultant involved to examine the problem and give an estimate. Estimate to properly repair is around \$50,000. Trustee Martin noted that wiring issues now need attention and raised network wiring as a discussion item. Quotes will be obtained from Lightpath and Erate. Director Wright said there are some potential WLS funding sources for this. Question: Do we bond? Get grant money?

Old Business

Trustee Tudisco is looking at the long-term plan for EPL.

New Business

Trustee Davidson discussed fundraising issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene E. Reda