

Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Eastchester Public Library
March 23, 2022

Present: Library Director Tracy Wright, Robert Cartolano (President), Rosetta McArdle, Leslye Davidson, Astra Tudisco, James Martin, and Darlene Reda. Town Councilwoman Theresa Nicholson also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. The minutes from the February 16, 2022 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved, as were the minutes from the Emergency Meeting held on February 24, 2022.

President's Report

President Cartolano discussed the recent change in guidance from Gov. Hochul regarding masks. Accordingly, EPL changed its policy from "masks required" to "masks optional."

Director's Report

Director Wright said she is rushing to get the SAM Grant in because she has to pay Lothrop for its services. She is still waiting for an estimate on the elevator project for the NYS Construction grant, for which funding was approved in the amount of approximately \$210,000. Project money from another library became available; Director Wright applied for and received that funding in the amount of approximately \$174,000 (must be matched). EPL will be receiving an additional \$250K from Amy Paulin (SAM grant). SAM funding cannot be used as a match; grants must remain entirely separate. Total funding, including matching funds, is approximately \$808,370 (\$558,370 plus \$250,000). We will use Fund Balance to pay for any additional amounts. If we have extra money, the library could really use a book lift; Director Wright is deciding between the basic lift and the "LULA," which would bring EPL into full ADA compliance. The library also needs an upgraded fire alarm system. Currently, heat detectors are in place; the new system would include smart smoke detectors.

ACTION ITEM: A motion was put before the board to approve the expense of up to \$15,000 to upgrade the full fire alarm system within the facility, including heat sensors, smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, and ability to call the Fire Department. The motion was unanimously approved.

Lula vs. booklift: Lula will cost about \$75,000 more than the basic booklift, as it will require some sort of construction to enlarge the space to fit people/strollers/wheelchairs. Option: remove Lula/booklift from this year's funding request and apply next year for NYS Construction Grant money to specifically fund this project.

ACTION ITEMS: Two separate motions were made to approve the hiring of a Library Clerk, Nicholas Mastroddi, effective March 28, 2022, at a salary of \$43,951; and a Child Librarian, Amy Chang, effective April 4, 2022 at a salary of \$63,462. Both motions were unanimously approved.

Per Town comptroller Dawn Donovan, there is enough money to full the full-time position of "Intermediate Account Clerk" at the same grade as Library Clerk. Salary is \$43,951.

EPL is still open only one night/week. Fines have not yet been reinstated. A discussion was held regarding closing the library at 1 or 3 pm on Good Friday. Director Wright will schedule another meeting re: long-range planning.

Committee Reports

See above re construction.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm. Next meeting is on April 27, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene E. Reda