

North Castle Public Library Minutes
April 8, 2013 7:30pm

In attendance:

Sean Ryan
Jeanne Lapsker
Scott Stopnik
David Charney
Jerry March
MaryBeth Wiesner
Jennifer Lee

Cris Ansnes, Library Director

Town: Michael Schiliro

Programming: Fran Davies

Marilyn Heimerdinger-Friends Librarian

Guests:

Co-Presidents of Green Acres Garden Club:
Lynn Watson
Nan Bircham

Approval of the Agenda

Scott Stopnik took the Oath of Office as Library Trustee. Welcome Scott!

Approval of the Minutes.

With visitors Lynn Watson and Nan Bircham, the beautiful Art sculpture installation was discussed. We are working to grow usage, and feel the inviting nature of the gifted sculpture will attract many. Thank you to the Green Acres Garden Club.

Warrant No. 4 for \$33, 102.88 was distributed and discussed. Signed by our President, Sean Ryan. (True cost to Town is less than \$20,000.00 due to contributions being made by the Friends.) Jennifer made motion to approve the warrant. Jeanne second. All were in favor.

All About Armonk founder Michelle Boyle proactively decided to reduce the library fee to \$225.00 per month in order to continue our account with a stipulation we sign for 1 year. We do need to work more strategically in order to make sure we can take best advantage of her services. Fran suggested making sure she understands the dates of events so that she puts notifications in AAA ahead of the event, rather than a review of the event post date. Also, Sean suggests we prepare the content for her. Jerry moved to continue for the year. Jennifer second and all were in favor. Cris will request the new monthly figure be effective for the year 2013, thus retroactively.

We as Library Trustees have to officially appoint anyone who takes a job in the library. Lori J. Cox as hourly librarian was duly appointed. Jerry made motion. Jennifer second. All were in favor.

Increase Funding

The idea of naming rights in exchange for significant donation was discussed. Michael suggested we discuss with Roland in order to make sure we understand the process and parameters.

Dolphin - Still not quite finished with the circulation area, but the work to date is beautiful.

Sean lead a discussion of the Town Board Presentation as a work session preparing for our presentation date (April 17, 2013). He and Cris met with the Town earlier today to discuss the present state of the presentation. They were very pleased with the responsiveness of Mr. Arden and those present. The overriding feeling was a strong move to work more collaboratively with the Town. There is agreement where the problems are and a demonstration of clear understanding toward creating a strategy to move forward.

A review of the current presentation was given and discussed. We are, as a Board of Trustees, very pleased with the work we have done, and are excited about the things that need to change.

Goals:

1. Make the relationship between the Town Board and the Library BOT be more collaborative.
2. Increase usage of the library
3. Work more efficiently administratively to ensure growth
4. Currently we are very dependent of the Friends and need to restructure so we can invest in technology
5. Management system needs to change so that we can operate in a more business practice methodology, while maintaining the human quality of this community library as a community hub.

It could be that we are so successful in growth numbers that our budget will need to increase. The process of deconstruction and then reconstruction with more efficiency will allow for and encourage growth. We have to do a better job marketing and selling the assets of the library and must address the desires of the community.

Furthering the case that supports the library mission, Michael suggests an additional slide to address the real and keenly felt event of 2012 - Hurricane Sandy. The library became the location of choice in times distress. During the hurricane, more people used the library as a hub than ever before. Interestingly, more so than the Rec Center.

Director's Report:

Cris announced her retirement effective June 28th. The Library Board of Trustees as well as the entire community is indebted to her long service and dedication to our library. Under her leadership, the library has absolutely thrived. Thank you Cris! You will be greatly missed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50. Our next meeting will be help on Monday, May 13, 2013 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Paulson Lee
Secretary