

Board Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2023 7pm MPL – Johnna’s Room and Zoom

Attending in person: Debbie Iszuak, Nicole Henline, Kelly Meredith, Eric Poach, Diane Lindsay, Tara Rotuna, Cindy Lucas,

Attending Zoom: David English, Mary-Francis Thorne, Mike Crane, Ruth Payne

- Debbi I. Call to order
- Consent Agenda:
 - Questions on previous minutes, Statistics, or Finances?
 - Minutes:
 - Mini “GOLD”
 - Discovery Garden “Mary” should be “May:
 - Revenue/Expenses?
 - April Detail: Gain/Loss of interest earnings – Nicole Will ask accountant.
 - Financials?
 - Book Fines? \$545 What is this? N.H. – Fines we collect for non-fine free libraries.
 - Motion to accept previous meeting minutes with changes – Kelly M. – Second – Mary F. T.
- Diane L. – Friends of the Monroeville Public Library Report
 - Light up the Library tour and plaque w/International Lions Group was a success. They are interested in funding the Discovery Garden.
 - Trivia Night – there was a \$1,000 profit. A good time was had by all.
 - The Friends are supporting Summer Reading with a \$1,000 donation. Are waiting for a breakdown of where the funds will be allocated
 - Farmer’s Market – the Friends will be manning a booth from June 17 – July 18. They will have raffle baskets and other materials provided by the Library (newsletters and other promotional materials).
 - Gallery Space
 - Open call for 24-25 season will be on August 12, 2023. Library Staff has the information and will add it to the newsletter.
 - 5 Below fundraiser -This will happen Mid July – August 1.
- Director’s Report – Nicole
 - Donor Party – A great time was had by all and the event was a success!
 - Thanks to Mike and the school district for helping with the parking.
 - Thanks to all for attending and or helping.
 - Cheers to our donors!
 - Thanks to the staff!
 - Grant updates:

- Staunton Farms gave a grant for shared programming and ACLA East is onboard to use the funds to provide wellness programming.
 - County Celebrate Community Grant – Asked for \$10k, received \$12K.
 - Hope & Cor are working on ways to use the funds
 - Citizenship kits (Cory)
 - School District options (Hope)
 - Security Situation Update – There was a recent incident where Gateway H.S. was evacuated.
 - Library was unaware of the situation.
 - Nicole called the Police and was told we were not in danger.
 - Eric is working on improving communication.
 - Debbie is speaking with the School Board
 - Active Shooter training
 - Eric is working on providing an exercise with Fire & EMS.
 - Discussing with Agencies to work together w/ Library participating.
 - 18-month process
 - There is an effort to have a Capital Budget component that will focus on security – Eric - All Monroeville facilities included with cameras, site alarms, video surveillance, all monitored back to the Municipality.
 - School Library Cards – Debbie reported good progress on presenting at a study session.
 - Staffing
 - Ruby St. Dennis has joined MPL as a part time circulation clerk
 - Ashley Reed will be starting soon as a part time Children’s Library Assistant.
 - Erin Cain has also started as a Part time Adult Services Librarian.
- ACLA Report – Dave English
 - Book challenge issues - ACLA has seen in other libraries.
 - First amendment Audits – Nicole has prepared staff to handle a potential issue.
 - The board needs to continue to support the policies.
 - Nicole H. – The whole point is to start an argument to create a situation that is exciting for people to “click onto”. Our biggest concern is having patrons be upset. The Staff is prepared.
 - Amy Anderson has talked to us.
 - Help out Penn Hills, by supporting their Facebook pages.
 - Good news – RAD Awarded 5 Libraries \$3.8 million projects in the distressed communities grants. They are actively seeking other proposals. Our project is a good candidate.
 - ACLA libraries are the darling of RAD, currently thanks to Amy and other new ACLA board efforts.
 - Keep plugging away for local support.

- State looks like a 99% chance that funding will stay at level funding.
- New Business – No new business
- Old Business – Nicole
 - School Library Cards – Board and Library staff have a plan to proceed.
 - Esports – Not much change. Project is on schedule.
 - Strategic Planning - Nicole – process is ongoing. Board retreat will be in September.
 - Policy Updates are ongoing.
- Committees:
 - Volunteer committee is going well.
 - Fund Development – Alice Tea there are only 7 tickets left! The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for June 4th.
- Meeting Adjourned to Executive session