

Monroeville Public Library Board Meeting Minutes

July 24th, 2023

Called to order at 7:01pm

Meeting held in person with virtual option

Members present: Nicole Henline (Director), Debbie Iszauk (President), Mary Frances Thorn, Emily Hoffman, Kelly Meredith, Michael Crane, Cindy Lucas, Dave English, Mandal Singh, Alan Rader, Pam Bodzioc, Diane Lindsey (Friends of MPL) and Eric Poach (Council liaison).

I. Friends of the Monroeville Public Library update presented Diane Lindsey:

A. The Friends presented a donation of 12.5K on behalf of PNC Bank to the MPL.

B. 8/11 Artist reception; Norma Rally and 8/12 starts the call to artists for the upcoming year.

C. September is Trivia Night month! Tickets go on sale 09/01 and Trivia Night is 09/23, doors open at 6pm, trivia starts at 7pm.

D. Thank you Friends for your donation and contribution of the petting zoo for Fun Fest on 08/26.

II. Consent Agenda from May and Financial Report from May and June, approved with unanimous vote.

III. Director's Report

A. Grant Updates:

1. McElhatten- they are under new leadership, we will apply for an after-school grant, decision slated for November.
2. PNC Charitable Trust awarded the MPL with a grant for 12.5K for the after-school programming.
3. Grable- No grant awarded
4. Additional Grant searched continue.

B. National and State News

1. The state of Montana is exiting the ALA.
2. The PA Freedom Caucus wants PA to withdraw from the ALA. There is no plan for this to happen.
3. In the light of book bans, some states are in the process of developing laws against book banning.
4. State Budget Update- level funding

IV. ACLA Report presented by Dave English:

- A. Awaiting the final approval of the budget. There was an ask for a 5.42% increase.
- B. ACLA bus tour has begun, so far there have been stops to 4 regional libraries. MPL may be a stop on the tour.

V. New Business

A. 2024 budget drafted

1. There will be an upcoming finance committee meeting to be held- Doodle poll for dates coming.
2. Nicole will be meeting with the Interim Borough Manager August 9th to present the budget draft.
3. Sept 5th will be a presentation for Love Your Library to Monroeville Council, Amy Anderson from ACLA may be available.
4. October 26th will be the Budget Hearing in Council Chambers, supporters encouraged to attend.

VI. Old Business

- A. School District library cards for all students is still an ongoing effort, Nicole and others met with interim superintendent, Guy Rossi, he suggested an “opt-in” option for the student library cards.
- B. Pitcairn Grant/RAD Transformative Grant, efforts are ongoing.
- C. Discovery Gardens is moving ahead. Kelly and Alan presented quote information from Arkos design group. A unanimous motion passed, to proceed with the Arkos.
- D. Strategic Planning Board retreat will be held in September.
- E. Standards for Excellence-Policy Updates and Best Practices
 1. Room Use Policy and fee update coming soon.
 2. Library Programming versus Public Use Programming Policy and Explanation coming soon.
 3. Municipal Flex Policy and Municipal Jean Policy discussed. The MPL handbook discusses dress code for employees.

VII. Committees Reports

A. Volunteer

1. Introducing a new method for volunteer sign ups allowing for flexible options of times.
2. Fun Fest- Sign up for a helping slot/times. Don't forget to invite your ward's council person.

B. Fund Development

1. Alice in Wonderland Tea successfully raised 5K. We were offered the use of the Lourdes Center of St. Bernadette Parish- Christ the Divine Shepard for next years Tea.
2. Sponsorship packages and the 2024 calendar are in progress.

C. Facilities:

1. HVAC units ordered. There is a long back order. Thank you to Eric and Alan for trying to keep the units running, a big thanks to John Float for working on a downed unit during the heat wave.
2. Alan assisted in getting 14 moveable/mobile shelving units for the Children's Room, thank you Alan!

VIII. General Information and Reminders- Save the date:

A. July Newsletter is out.

B. Fun Fest is August 26th

C. Next Board Meeting is Tuesday August 29th at 7pm.

Action Items: Volunteers will be needed for the upcoming summer fundraiser/events.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm. Moved into Executive session.