

Minutes from Library Board Meeting - March 30th, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM. In attendance: March Sutton, Sandy Lawrence, Frank Cooney, Jane Carr, Jackie Nemecek, Seth Smith and Bob Lancaster and Library Director, Kris Brown.

Sandy moved to approve the agenda. Bob provided the second. After discussion, the board suspended committee reports and the agenda was approved with this change.

Jane moved to approve the February minutes. Jackie provided the second. Motion carried.

No citizens for comment.

Librarian's report included a brief description of what the director and staff are doing within the library, even though the doors are closed. Cassi is posting story times on our library website, at the usual 10:30 AM time on Tuesday morning. Please check it out. They look very professionally done. The staff are working at staggered times, as much as possible. Still checking materials in, answering the phone, posting various resources on-line. Lots of cleaning projects remain to keep everyone busy.

- The rebate forms for the new furnaces and air conditioners have been mailed.
- The railing under the front entrance has been installed. It will be painted when the weather warms up.
- The city guys have cleared space in the basement and eventually will move the "history center materials" over for storage until a new location can be found.

Bills: there was a question about which line-item the video editing will be subtracted from and are there enough funds. There will be just enough funds for what we anticipate will be needed for story time and babygarden programming posted on-line in the educational programming budget.

Bob asked if there were any additional expenses coming up due to closing. Kris responded by saying that our expenses for books and other materials may be down at least for April. There are no out of the ordinary expenses coming up. We should have funds left at the end of the fiscal year that we can transfer over to the "savings fund" for building maintenance.

Under old business:

March has received all the evaluations for Kris. March and Bob will review the results and March will contact Kris before the next meeting, to review them.

The solar project was tabled until April.

Under new business:

The Library Board had a long discussion regarding staff wages since the library has been closed. Kris explained that there are plenty of jobs for the staff, both for work at the library and to take home. That is something that she would have to re-evaluate at the end of April if the

library remains closed into May. Full access to all library documents is not yet available but hopefully will be in the next week. Frank brought up the benefits of unemployment but it was agreed that part-time staff would only receive a percentage of what they currently earn and it would be to the library's benefit to retain all of our staff rather than lay them off. March suggested that we include that any staff member who chose to stay home to take care of a family member who is vulnerable to the virus, or who contracts the virus themselves, would also have their wages covered. Kris will oversee progress of work assigned and work completed. Bob suggested "call forwarding" to redirect calls to the library to a staff person working at home. Kris will check into that. Jackie moved to cover full payments for all library staff through May 1st. Jane provided the second. Motion carried.

Also under new business, the Library Board discussed what our current Wi-Fi offers to the public. Even with the library closed, the public can access our Wi-Fi from the parking lot. Kris does not know how far away from the building this can be accessed. March asked why other libraries did not seem concerned about abuse of this service (as we saw several years ago when someone was downloading movies illegally). Kris checked in with the Ely Library. They also have Southslope as a provider and had the same problem we had, actually about the same time. Ely Library fixed their issue the same way we did by tightening the data moving in and out of our firewall. At this point, the benefit of providing Internet access for the public who may not have good Internet access at home seems worth any problems that might pop up. If we have problems, we can cut back on the availability. The Board did not make a motion but advised Kris to target advertising to those families/students who may need this service.

On our April agenda: the solar panel project, staff wages

Jackie moved to adjourn. Sandy provided the second. Motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Kris Brown