

Rye Free Reading Room
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
10/18/16

Present: Bernie Althoff, Paula Gamache, Aimee Seldon, Ted Burdick, Mary Sykes, Sarah Wise Liller, Francis Jenkins, Patsy Rafter, Kristin Bucci, Susan Jansen, Carolina Johnson.

Not Present: John Eckerson, Peter Sinnott IV, Francis Rodilosso, Bill Fallon, Eric Boch, Eileen O'Connor, Gail Fell, Mark Zwerger.

Sarah Wise Miller called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. Carolina Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes, Bernie Althoff seconded and the minutes were approved.

President's Report

Sarah announced that Taegan Goddard resigned from the Board of Trustees effective immediately because he has a standing conflict on Tuesdays.

The Board is accepting \$150 dollars per board member for silent auction item to be auctioned at Novel Night.

Director's Report

Chris announced the "Rye Rockets" placed 1st for Battle of the Books, the contest includes all of Westchester libraries. A press release is going out to The Rye Record announcing the win.

The third quarter statistics still show the impact of weeding on the adult collection, with overall library circulation showing a downward trend. Chris is a little worried about decline in circulation on the children's collection, given the refresh of that collection in the last year. There was a slight dip in children's programs in the early Fall.

The library continues to build partnership with the High School, doing on site projects like a writing workshop for students after school.

Finance Report

Paula Gamache reported that the September numbers track close to budget. The Annual Campaign letters went out at the beginning of October. Last year 85 percent of donations came in November and December.

The endowment is performing well and recovering from the market downturn earlier in the year. Ted Burdick made a motion to accept the financial reports for September and Mary Sykes seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Auxiliary Board Report

About 380 people replied to Novel Night, attendance is lower than two years ago. The Auxiliary will be discussing new officers at their last meeting of the year, which is at the beginning of December.

Buildings and Grounds

Francis Jenkins met with Peter Sinnott IV and started doing a scope of work for the Capital Campaign. They have renderings and a budget.

Chris has received bids for the electrical work and the plaster repair for the 1st floor light replacements. The workmen have been recommended by Peter.
There's no project manager from the board yet.

The board discussed the timeline for the capital campaign, and Chris and Sarah will speak to Debra, the Capital Campaign chair.

Development

Letters for the Annual Campaign went out. Time was spent on weeding the donor list. As of today we have \$25,148 in contributions, well ahead of October 2015.
Full-page ads will go on The Rye Record and the Rye City Review. There will be boards put up at the library and an e-blast is set for Nov. 1st. The Citibank sign reminding people about the Annual Campaign will go up in November.

Nominating

Several names of candidates were discussed, but none are made public yet. The Nominating Committee made a recommendation to invite 5 new potential board members. Paula Gamache made that motion and Patsy Rafter seconded, approved by all.

Strategic Planning

We have 98 responses to the online survey. Overall there is positive feedback, but the most frustrating comment is: "Why are we not like Greenwich Library?"

New Business

Chris shared information about a public budget vote for the library budget, also known as a 414 library district vote.

Bernie Althoff moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Paula Gamache, approved by all at 8:55 PM.