

## Barrett Paradise Friendly Library Board of Trustees Meeting

March 25, 2024

Meeting held in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option

In Attendance: Mike Stein, President; Julie Wynne, Vice-President; Richard Leist, Treasurer; Cindy Cook, Secretary. Trustees: Lisa Flanagan, Brette Fulton, Judi Jabara, Nancy Lewis, Julie Niering, Maureen Siglin, Darryl Speicher. Mary Ann Lewis, Library Director.

Mike Stein, President, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

The minutes of the February 26, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Darryl Speicher made a motion to approve the minutes, Lisa Flanagan second and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained due to being absent from the February meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** – Richard Leist reviewed the reports. Discussion took place about moving funds from the regular bank account to the Morgan Stanley account, no decisions were made. The income statement showed State Aid has been received. It was noted that payroll expenses are higher than last year at this time but lower than budget.

Morgan Stanley returns are solid, the investment portfolio shows roughly a 5%-6% return year after year. Julie Niering made a motion to file the Treasurer's report for audit, Julie Wynne second and all were in favor.

**Library Director's Report** – Mary Ann reported the number of visitors at the library was slightly up this month. The annual report has been submitted to the state and the library met the 12% rule, no waiver will need to be filed. Discussion took place about the 12% rule. Ballot box arrived at the library. Mary Ann stated she will be attending a leadership program sponsored by the PA Library Association as a mentor. The program will be held May 7-10. Currently the library is hosting Donna McCann's photography; Julie Wynne attended the reception and spoke about it.

Mary Ann announced that Pocono Mountain Regional EMS would like to offer community programs such as AED and CPR training at the library once a month.

Mary Ann shared a story about a patron who had come to the library regularly but moved away. They needed some technical assistance and drove back to our library for help since it had been such a positive experience prior.

Circulation is slightly up but still typical for this time of the year.

Programming is also going well. The Frog and Toad Leap Year Eve party was a huge success. Thirty-six (36) youth and eighteen (18) adults attended. The Blind Date with a book was successful; some patrons liked their book and some did not. The library will begin a silent book club on March 27. There is a new program called Kaleidoscope beginning which will involve poetry and literature. John James will be coming in to instruct a watercolor class.

**Building Report** – The tree that came down in the back of the library is on a phone line not an electrical line. Mountain Landscaping will remove the tree.

**Fundraising** – The Friends Letter has generated \$19,328.23 with two hundred and twenty-two donors (222). The Philadelphia Flower Show was a good trip overall with twenty-nine (29) participants along

with Mary Ann Lewis and Nicole Abrams from the The Friendly Community Center. The trip was a cultural event instead of a fundraiser. Books and Bubbly will return this year. The date for the event is June 14 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Discussion took place about serving alcohol at the library.

**Grants** – Mary Ann and Carol Hillestad are working on the applications for the Hughes grants. The library received \$25,000 from the Hommer Foundation. The foundation did notify the library they will be taking a pause for the year to reorganize due to the death of Mr. Peter Kern.

**New Business** – Mike Stein reported the library 2034 committee met on March 14 and put together an areas of focus list which include priorities and timelines, content, access to content and awareness of content. The next meeting of the committee will be May 14 and all are invited to attend. Representative Madden’s office notified the library they have discontinued their satellite office hours at the library.

National Library Week is April 7 through April 13 and many different activities are being planned. The library is planning another meet the local authors event and is waiting to hear back from a few authors.

**Old Business** – The Letters of Appreciation need to be framed and presented to Lisa Flanagan and Deb Boyle.

Mary Ann found some old ledgers to gain more info on previous library directors. Discussion took place about reaching out to Susie Raymond for information. Progress is being made.

**Miscellaneous** – Darryl Speicher announced that Evergreen School will be having a Solar Eclipse watch event at B.A.R.C. He also stated the first train is scheduled to come to the train station on June 30.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m. with Richard Leist making the motion and Darryl Speicher second.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.