

The Butler Public Library Board of Trustees Minutes January 6, 2022

Meeting called to order: at 6:09 p.m. by Camille Piccirillo.

The required posting was made in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Roll Call:

Present: Helene Donargo, Maryanne Hanisch, Becky Karpowich, Jason Karpowich, Camille Piccirillo, and Luis Rodriguez (Library Director, ex-officio).

Excused: Nadia Cartelli and Ryan Martinez

Reorganization

B. Karpowich nominated and H. Donargo seconded the nomination of Camille Piccirillo as President. The nomination was accepted.

B. Karpowich nominated and H. Donargo seconded the nomination of Maryanne Hanisch as Treasurer. The nomination was accepted.

The Board voted unanimously to approve both nominees to their offices.

President's Comments

The President said that for 2022, the Library is in a very good position. The Library ended 2021 very well and she looks forward to a good year. She thanked the Board members for their participation.

Minutes:

M. Hanisch motioned and H. Donargo seconded the motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Director's Report:

The Director had sent his written report to the Board before the meeting. He highlighted some items from the report:

- Attendance at programs has been good.
- More patrons are coming into the Library with masks.
- The staff decided to wear masks when near patrons and other staff.

- The President asked if staff is OK. That Director said Lisa Masino has been out since mid-October. Staff have stepped up to fill the gap. The Library is OK as long as no one else gets sick.
- Not as many people have been coming into the Library as pre-COVID, especially at night.
- The Director gave a shout-out to Kate LeBlanc, of the Butler High School. She came with her Film Studies students to the showing of the Last Tuesday of the Movie in December. Before the movie began (Knives Out), they gave attendees some things to look out for while watching the movie.
- The start of the Mindfulness program was delayed one week. Sign-ups for the program are good.
- The director of the North Jersey History and Genealogy Center at the Morristown/Morris Township Library is doing a program on how to do genealogy research online.
- Robert Corman donated \$1,000 towards a program by Life Center Stage.
- There may be a possibility that George Roskos of Architekt Studios and Vicky Mulligan of Life Center Stage may do a program for young adults on songwriting.
- Two high school students may do a robotics program for middle school students in the summer. J. Karpowich, who taught a robotics course on Saturdays and did a course on it as well, offered his help.
- B. Karpowich said that the middle school will be doing the Junior Solar Sprint program. She is not sure where it will be held. The Director said that the Library could hold the program if needed.
- The Director said that he and others will be meeting with some Morris/Warren/Sussex Workforce Development Board members to see how the Access Navigator in area libraries and the Board can help each other.
- The Director mentioned the availability of Qello and Craftsy in Libby.

H. Donargo motioned and M. Hanisch seconded the motion to accept the Director's report. The Board unanimously accepted the report.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer and Director had emailed Board members information on the checking accounts and bills to pay.

Lakeland checking account: \$80,971.34 balance. 0.015% interest rate (unchanged).
The interest on the NJCMF went up by 100th of a percent.

The petty cash reimbursement is \$88.85.

The Library owes the Borough \$18,010.64.

The Board reviewed the bills to be paid. J. Karpowich motioned and H. Donargo seconded the motion to approve the Treasurer's report and the payment of the bills. The President conducted a roll call and all voted yes on the motion.

Old Business

2021 Budget Report

Before the meeting, the Director sent a spreadsheet with information on the 2021 budget. The Library collected \$5,000 more in revenues and spent \$26,000 less in expenditures than approved, so the budget surplus is around \$31,000. A lot of the surplus came from holding off on hiring staff to replace staff who left.

The Director asked the Board to ask the Borough Council to continue to provide the extra \$10,000 to the Library. The President said she would find out if the Borough will give the Library the \$10,000 in 2022. The Board discussed the need for the extra funding.

New Business

One-Time Bonus for Staff

The Director asked the Board to give four staff members (Margaret Assante, Jennifer Caputo, Kristen Talbot and Arlene Walk) a one-time \$300 bonus for taking on extra duties while Lisa Masino has been out on sick leave. Both the Director and Board praised the Library staff for the way they help people who come into the Library.

J. Karpowich motioned to approve the one-time payment. H. Donargo seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Public Comments

No comments.

Adjournment

B. Karpowich motioned to adjourn. H. Donargo seconded the motion. The Board approved adjourning the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Luis Rodriguez