



Raritan Public Library

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December 17th, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:03pm by Don Esposito, Board President. This meeting was held virtually via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Don Esposito read a statement that the meeting was duly publicized and it was called pursuant to provisions from the Open Public Meeting Law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Esposito, J. Fidacaro, M.P. Gausz, A. Goetsch, J. Foohey, L. Hnasko, U. Agrawal, A.M. Mead, Mayor Z. Bray and M. Paese, Director.

D. Esposito led the flag salute.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:06pm, Z. Bray made a motion to enter executive session, J. Foohey seconded and the roll call was unanimous. The Board entered executive to discuss a letter and proposal fee by HMR Architects regarding an examination of Library foundation work. At 7:15pm, J. Foohey made a motion to return to regular session, Z. Bray seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

MINUTES: M.P. Gausz made a motion to approve the regular and executive minutes from the November 19th, 2020 Board Meeting, A.M. Mead seconded the motion. All trustees approved except J. Fidacaro, U. Agrawal and Z. Bray who abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A.M. Mead made a motion to approve the November and December bills, A. Goetsch seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Barrett Construction installed the window screens in the Library's stack room.
- Langhorne sent a carpet installer to measure so that the proper amount of wool will be fabricated at the mill.
- Representatives from Somerset County and Raritan Public Works along with D. Esposito and the Director met to choose a spot to install the historic sign in the front yard. The next step will be for the utility companies to mark out underground lines.
- The Library has not received its annual State Aid check. The Director has been in contact with the NJSL Director of State Aid who has been calling the NJ Treasury Department on our behalf.
- The Library's IT staff member will be leaving her position on January 6th. She will continue to host Zoom meetings until the end of the month.
- Saturday's outdoor caroling program may have to be postponed due to the current snowstorm and whether the grounds can be cleared in time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The Board discussed anticipated Capital Fund expenditures for 2021 and chose three projects to prioritize. They are new carpeting in the circulation area, storm windows and foundation repairs and mortar restoration. M.P. Gausz made a motion to approve the anticipated capital projects, J. Fidacaro seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS: After a previous discussion on HMR Architects, A.M. Mead made a motion to approve hiring the firm to perform a detailed examination of the structural/foundation issues for a sum of \$3,660.00. J. Foohey seconded the motion and the roll call was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS: J. Foohey reported that a lot of discarded books have been taken over the last several months.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:36pm, a motion was made by A. M. Mead to adjourn the meeting, seconded by U. Agrawal. The roll call was unanimous.

The next Board of Trustees meeting (reorganizational) will be held virtually via Zoom on January 21st, 2021 at 7:00 pm.