



Raritan Public Library

September 19th, 2019

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The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jane Fidacaro, Board Vice President. J. Fidacaro read a statement that the meeting was duly publicized (including notices which were sent to the Courier News and the Star Ledger) and that the meeting was called pursuant to provisions from the Open Public Meeting Law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Fidacaro, A. Goetsch, B. Doorly, U. Agrawal, A. M. Mead (BOE), Z. Bray (Mayor alternate) and M. Paese, Director.
Absent were: K. Seifert-Ethier, D. Esposito, and M. P. Gausz.

J. Fidacaro led the flag salute.

MINUTES: A. M. Mead made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 15th, 2019 Board Meeting, A. Goetsch seconded the motion. All trustees approved except U. Agrawal, B. Doorly and J. Fidacaro who abstained.

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

RESOLUTION: 2019-09-001: A motion was made by A. M. Mead and seconded by Z. Bray to transfer funds in the operating budget from furnishing to legal. The roll call was unanimous.

RESOLUTION: 2019-09-002: A motion was made by A. M. Mead and seconded by Z. Bray to transfer funds in the operating budget from facilities to office. The roll call was unanimous.

RESOLUTION: 2019-09-003: A motion was made by A. M. Mead and seconded by Z. Bray to approve funds to clean and seal the Library's cedar roof. Shampatore Roofing will provide the services. The amount is not to exceed \$5,500.00. The roll call was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- The Library's IT employee, Shreya Gurjar, received a quote to replace the Bookkeeper's computer. This older unit has Windows 7 which will not be supported in 2020. The price for a new HP with Windows 10 is \$799.00. B. Doorly made a motion to approve the purchase, A.M. Mead seconded and the roll call was unanimous.
- The Director spoke with the two companies which competitively quoted installing an irrigation system for both the front and back yard. It was agreed we will wait until spring of 2020 and review the estimates at that time.
- Langhorne Carpet Company's estimate to replace historic carpeting in the Circulation Room, stairwell and landing is \$23,350.00. The work will be done on a Saturday. A.M. Mead made a motion to approve the capital project, U. Agrawal seconded and the roll call was unanimous.
- The Director gave the Board statistics on the Museum Passes that the Library offers. It was agreed to promote the passes for greater borrowing statistics. B. Doorly mentioned he would advertise the Museum Pass Program in his e-mail blast.

- The Director met twice with Ken Heaphy from the Somerville Rescue Squad. Mr. Heaphy recommends the Library purchase a Phillips AED defibrillator. The Board discussed the cost estimate for the unit and training of the staff as well as liability. The Trustees also recommended speaking with the Library's attorney regarding liability. The defibrillator will be voted on at the next board meeting.
- The Raritan Valley Slavic Society, who meet quarterly in our Community Room, sent a complimentary letter about our facility along with a donation.
- The Trustees discussed the paid vacation week perk for part-time Library employees who work over 20 hours per week and decided to keep it.
- Carol Spicer reached out to a Boy Scout Regional Director regarding partnering with the Library on the construction of "library boxes". More information will follow.

Programs/Events:

Saturday, September 21st @ 1:00 pm: The rock group "The Flounders" will perform in the backyard gazebo area.

Sunday, September 22nd from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm: The Library will be open before the start of the John Basilone Parade.

Saturday, October 5th @ 1:00 pm: Author visit with Rosanna Chiofalo who will read and discuss her 5th novel: "The Sunflower Girl".

Saturday, October 12th and Sunday, October 13th: The Library will be open for tours during the Somerset County Journey Weekend. On Sunday, George and Martha Washington re-enactors will do presentations at our Library.

Wednesday, October 16th @ 6:00 pm: An evening showing of the Shakespeare movie "All Is True". This film will be attended by members of the Shakespeare group that meets here at our Library. The movie is also open to the public.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: J. Fidacaro stated that a new snow agreement is needed from the Borough. Z. Bray remarked that he will look into this.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: The Library and the town's Economic Development Committee will partner to reach out to local businesses and provide a space for future meetings. The Trustees talked in greater length about the "little free library" boxes. There may be a possible meeting in October with the Neighborhood Watch Program.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: J. Foohey mentioned that the Friends of the Raritan Library donated \$395 to the JFK PTO for partnering with them on the community yard sale. He would like to see this be an annual event. The Friends intend to hold an upcoming book sale for the Library, possibly in December.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:49 pm, a motion was made by A. Goetsch to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A.M. Mead. The roll call was unanimous.
The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on October 17th, 2019 at 7:00pm in the Library.