



Meeting Minutes Library Board

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

6:30 PM

Public Library

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Present 6 - Board Member Marilyn Menish-Meucci, Board Member Elizabeth Thompson, Board Member Chelsea Tremblay, Board Member Alec McMurren, Board Member Barbara Fish, and Board Member Cynthia McDonnell

Excused 1 - Board Member Mary Koppes

2. Approval of the Minutes

approved

Attachments: LIB05301 - MINUTES

3. Amendment & Approval of Meeting Agenda

approved

4. Visitors Views Related/Unrelated to Agenda

5. Staff Report

No written report.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Storytellers Pole

Over 200 people attended the unveiling event. Some concern regarding cultural protocol emerged in the weeks leading up to the unveiling. The pole is a work of art, not a cultural object. Tommy Joseph provided oversight of the correct way to install the pole with a non-public installation and unveiling, unlike the protocol needed for a traditional pole. To help alleviate the misunderstanding library staff attended meetings of the Alaska Native Brotherhood & Sisterhood, Petersburg Indian Association and made contact with individual tribal members. When Tommy Joseph was in Petersburg a conversation for tribal members was held and news story addressing the issue aired on KFSK. The event was a huge success, with over 200 people attending. The Seetka Kwaan Dancers performed, Chelsea Tremblay was master of ceremonies, and Nicole Hallingstad gave a wonderful speech. The

Board discussed the complexity of issue and lessons learned moving forward. Many members of the community have expressed how much they love the pole to both Board and staff. An interpretive plaque will be made in the future by Mette Hansen, she did all of the library's donor signage. Carey Case has been asked to take some 'beauty shots' of the pole for the library. A covered shelter will be built adjacent to the pole in the square gravelled area. This will be built in the next 1-2 years with donations remaining from the capital campaign.

discussed

b. Decolonizing Alaska Exhibit

The library has received a Petersburg Community Foundation grant for \$2500 to bring this exhibit to Petersburg in early 2019. This will cover the exhibit fee and curator visit, the library will need to find the funds required for shipping. Presenting to the PIA Board about the project and approaching AML for reduced shipping costs were discussed. The exhibit is large, so we might end up displaying pieces at the Museum and Borough Offices. The opening reception is tentatively scheduled for Valentine's Day.

discussed

c. FY19 Operating Budget

Passed in its second reading May 14.

discussed

d. Sunday open hours

The Borough Assembly voted 6-1 against opening the library on Sundays. This proposal was initiated by Assembly Member Meucci.

discussed

7. New Business

a. October 2018 Municipal Election

Members Koppes and Tremblay both have expiring terms and have expressed their interest in running in the October 2018 election.

discussed

b. Petersburg Library Art Education Endowment

John McCabe has contributed an additional \$8,000 to the Petersburg Library Art Education Endowment. His contributions to date are \$53,540, a detailed list is included below. The balance of the fund when this donation is received will be \$60,250.

discussed

Attachments: LIB05302 - DONATION

8. Discussion Items**a. Public art idea from Sally Riemer**

Sally Riemer brought forth the idea of a 'Tree of Knowledge' sculpture. She had seen this idea at the Oro County Public Library in Tucson, AZ and wondered if something similar might be possible here. Board members were very receptive to the idea and discussed how it could be tailored to fit our library. Action on the idea was postponed until the right occasion to embark on a project like this comes along.

discussed

Attachments: LIB05302 - PUBLIC ART IDEA

b, Friends of Petersburg's Libraries updates

Member Fish reported that sales were good at the April book sale.

Members Fish and Meucci expressed interest in compiling a list of the books read by local book clubs.

discussed

c. Comments/ideas from public and Board members.

Member Koppes was absent but asked that the Director share an offer from the Arts Council to use the remainder of funds from a Petersburg Community Foundation Grant to purchase books for the library's writing collection. As part of the process the writing collection will move out of the education section and into the literary collections/poetry section that is adjacent seating. The Board was enthusiastic about the idea.

discussed

d. Next meeting: September 26, 2018**9. Adjournment**