

November 15, 2022
Joint Free Public Library
Of Morristown and Morris Township
Board of Trustees

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Joint Free Public Library of Morristown and Morris Township was called to order at 6:07 PM.

Representing Morristown were: Patricia Ard, Secretary; and Elisa Price

Representing Morris Township were: Don Kiel, Vice President, Geoff Brooks, Treasurer

Also present were: Deanna Quinones, alternate for Mayor Dougherty; Mary Ellen DeNoon, alternate for Mayor Gyorfy; Chad Leinaweaver, Director; and Mary Lynn Becza, Assistant Director

Pursuant to a resolution of the Board and to RS 10:4-10, "Open Public Meetings Act," the vice president announced that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by posting notices of the meeting in the Library, by handing the Clerks of Morristown and Morris Township notices of the meeting, and by mailing to the Morris County Daily Record and the Star Ledger copies of the notices of the meetings all more than forty-eight hours prior to the meeting.

Minutes

The October 18, 2022 Board minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Brooks noted that the library has not received the fourth quarter appropriations from either the town or the township. The report was received.

Director's Report

The following are major points presented by Mr. Leinaweaver:

*Craig Newmark Philanthropies gave the library a \$10,000.00 grant.

*A patron donated \$3,000.00 to the Library Foundation.

*Maintenance employee Alberto Posse is finishing out his long service to the library. A staff party will be given in his honor in December.

*Halloween brought lots of Trick or Treaters to the library's Trunk or Treat.

*Since we still don't have a bookmobile hire, other employees are pitching in.

*Abby, the YA librarian, has had success with programs related to college success, votech, and learning to drive.

*As we move out of COVID hibernation, patron disturbance issues have become more prevalent.

*The Digital Public Library of America's (DPLA) New Jersey/Delaware portal was set up and invited the History Center to become a part of it. Thus any digital images loaded onto our website from our History Center will also be accessible from this new portal.

*The mix of zoom and in-person attendance for various programs is hard to predict.

Building and Grounds Report

- *Despite encountering some structural problems, the new bottle filler fountain is almost installed.
- *Since the circulation bathroom leak has gotten worse, the sink will be replaced.
- *A tower bench has been removed; there are still two public benches there for patron use.
- *The library will use contract cleaners in the period between Mr. Posse retiring and the new hire arriving.

Committees

*Budget – The Director reported that he put together some talking points in a power point regarding the third of a mil library financing issue. The Director will be meeting with Ms. Bangiola about the 2023 budget sign-off.

*Education –No report.

*Investment–It was noted that there would be a second reading of the 2023 library budget later in the meeting.

The anticipated upcoming change in Foster fund investment rules will allow us to move into more remunerative investments with the recent interest rate increases.

The library's attorney has prepared a draft application for the movement of Foster funds to the Foundation. Mr. Brooks suggested the library board be named as plaintiff rather than an individual.

*Foundation –The Foundation approved the grant of \$45,000.00 to the library.

*Nominations – No report.

*Insurance- No report.

*Personnel – There are no new bookmobile candidates to interview, and the search will be paused over the holiday period.

The Director will provide his annual reflections in advance of the December meeting.

A motion passed to hire Nellie Vizcarrondo as a circulation library assistant for approximately 11-12 hours per week at \$13.00 hour.

The maintenance technician job description was approved.

The Board approved a resolution of gratitude for Alberto Posse for his over 30 years of dedicated service to the library (attached).

*Facility and Grounds – The sign will soon be arriving.

*Branding and Marketing – The branding firm has suggested some logo ideas and the committee will solicit feedback on those ideas from various library groups.

New Business:

No new business.

Old Business:

The second reading of the 2023 budget occurred. Mr. Brooks noted that the gross salaries included a 3% gross salary increase plus an increase in hourly wages to align with wage increases state wide. The library can't sustain the budget going forward without an increase from the town and township. Discussion ensued on the budget. A motion to approve the 2023 budget passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Ard, Secretary