

HENDRICK HUDSON FREE LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 23, 2017

Board members present: Kathy Americo, Ellen Roth, Agnes Leyden, Cindy Neff, Charles Smith, Christine Puente, Mark Geisler, Karen Rosen

Also present: Jill Davis, Director; Terri Jersey, Children's Librarian; Jenny Kolesar, Business Manager

Ms. Leyden called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

The minutes of the November 28, 2016 meeting were approved on a motion made by Ms. Neff and seconded by Ms. Rosen; motion carried (8-0).

FINANCES - Mrs. Davis

- **Budget-to-Date** -- reviewed and accepted as in line with 6 months of our FY. Mrs. Davis will be reimbursing the publicity account \$100 for a booster ad she purchased on behalf of the library.
- **Treasurer's Report** - reviewed and accepted. Mrs. Davis reported that all accounts with Key Bank have been closed and the money transferred into the appropriate TD Bank accounts. This includes the \$75,000 that was transferred back to the Capital account that has been used for construction costs.
- **Miscellaneous Income Report** - reviewed and accepted.
- **Synchrony CD-Capital Account**-the 12-month CD currently at Synchrony bank will come due on February 10, 2017. The Board consensus was to keep this CD at Synchrony under same terms unless a better rate can be acquired.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

OLD BUSINESS

- **Construction Update**
Mrs. Davis reported that construction officially began on the children's room addition on December 28th. The concrete for the foundation has been poured and demolition work inside and out is progressing.
- **Lafarge PILOT Payment**
The PILOT agreement with Continental Building (formerly Lafarge) has expired and the approximately \$7400 that the Library normally receives will need to be withdrawn from the 2017-2018 budget. If it is renegotiated the Town of Cortlandt will contact us.
- **Puppet Theater Estimates**
Terri Jersey, Children's Librarian, reported that she had reached out to additional vendors and requested estimates for a realistic tree that functions as a puppet theater to be constructed in the new addition. She found a local set construction company, Props & Paint, who submitted an estimate of \$16,500 for the construction of the puppet theater tree. Janice Davis, from Davis Designs, will design and oversee the construction and installation for \$3,500. Mrs. Jersey would like to reach out to one more company before making a final decision. A **motion** was made by Ms. Puente, and seconded by Ms. Roth to approve the spending of up to \$25,000 for a puppet theater; motion carried unanimously (8-0).

NEW BUSINESS

- **Entergy**

On Friday, January 6th it was announced that Entergy will be closing its two remaining operating power plants. This will have a financial impact on the Library. Currently 28% (\$400,000) of the Library's operating budget comes from a PILOT agreement with Entergy. There is little concrete information available at this time, as this deal was negotiated by Governor Cuomo's office, Riverkeeper and Entergy without the inclusion of county or local government officials or the school district (who negotiates for the Library). It is believed that Entergy will abide by the PILOT agreement, which has a set schedule for a decrease in funding after the plants close in 2020 and 2021.

- **2017-2018 Budget**

Mrs. Davis presented a number of draft proposals for the 2017-2018 budget. The announcement by Entergy that they would be closing the plant completely by 2021 will cause the library to have to reexamine its finances and investigate ways to replace that funding. As per the PILOT agreement (estimated payments through 2025 attached) the payments will stay steady through the 2019-2020 FY and will then begin to decrease. At the request of the board, Mrs. Davis will prepare several other preliminary budgets showing 1%, 2% and 3% budget to budget increases and the effect they have on the overall income of the library. After discussion, the board decided that with the uncertainty of the PILOT money a resolution to override the NY State Tax Cap would need to be presented. A motion to approve the attached resolution was made by Mr. Geisler and seconded by Ms. Leyden. The motion was carried unanimously (8-0) with 80% of the board present. Mr. Schwartz and Ms. Keefe were absent from the meeting.

- **Trustee Application**

We have received one resume for the open trustee position from Mr. Philip Brandon. Mrs. Davis will contact the Mr. Brandon and set up an interview to be held before the February 27th board meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT- See attached

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - (January, May, September)

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you from Ellen Roth and family for the food sent after her father's passing.
- Letter from Assemblywoman Sandy Galef in response to our letter concerning the closing of Indian Point.
- Congratulatory letter received from Supervisor Puglisi for being the 2016 Shubert Award for Library Excellence winner.

OTHER

Meeting adjourned at 9:12pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 27th -8:00 pm-Regular Meeting

7:30 pm- Interview Mr. Philip Brandon