

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES- September 11, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: President Jennifer Shirk called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPML: Notice of this meeting was posted in the City Clerk's office and was advertised in the December 28, 2016 Ocean City Sentinel and in the December 29, 2016 Atlantic City Press, posted on the Library's website, and posted on bulletin boards inside the library.

RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE: (Roll Call) Jennifer Shirk, Fred Marcell, Dr. Pritchard, Ron Denney, Brian Broadley, Dustin Peters, Lauren Cowden, Mike Allegretto, Dr. Taylor (arr. 4:05pm); Karen Mahar, Leslie Clarke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Brian Broadley moved to approve the minutes from the August 2017 meeting with a second from Dr. Pritchard. All present were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dr. Pritchard reviewed assets and liabilities. (See motion approval below)

ACTION ON BILLS: A payment was made to "Greater Talent Network" for the author luncheon and a payment to "Ideal Management" was for an upcoming ghost hunter program. Fred Marcell clarified that "Mergent" is an online reference database. Ron Denney asked for clarification on DVD payments. Upon no further questions, Ron Denney moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills with a second from Brian Broadley. The Treasurer's Report passed with all present in favor and the bills were paid with all present in favor by roll call.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The Policy Committee is scheduled to meet in September and will bring policies for board review in October.

The PLA is presenting a virtual town hall meeting on the opioid epidemic. Many community and library leaders will be speaking. Mrs. Shirk plans on "attending" and invited members to log in.

Mrs. Shirk presented an article regarding the reasons for the increase in library visits in the last two decades. She outlined some reasons for members including the following: libraries are more involved in community than before; programming has evolved to include more business and job skills topics; multi-day events are being cultivated like ComiCon and OC Reads; professional attitudes have shifted to become more personal; libraries are more mobile; social media has expanded access; and libraries are embracing user-centered technology. Ocean City Library is a leader in all of the listed advancements and proof of that is revealed by the request of OC Library staff members to present at the upcoming NJLA Conference.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Although official statistics are not yet available, the summer season was very successful for the library.

Author Luncheon tickets are still available.

The Fall Concert Series has begun with stellar attendance.

The partnership with ACCC is also successful and is open to all with preference to Chamber members. A monthly quick glance of events flyer was presented.

Karen replied to Fred Marcell's inquiry regarding the success of the YA program here at the library. She complimented the efforts of YA Librarian, Sara Bruesehoff, and her ongoing outreach to this age group. Many programs of various types are offered and staff members look forward to the coming of the "Maker Space" which will be heavily utilized by this patron niche. Ms. Bruesehoff continues to partner with the OCPD in "Fridays with Friends" and looks forward to the annual interactive Murder Mystery. Director Mahar assured Mr. Marcell that this section of the library is continuing to grow and outreach to it will increase.

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE: None

FRIENDS AND VOLUNTEERS REPORT: President Debbie Moreland along with member, Pam Hepner highlighted the group's activities. Thanks were offered for the co-funding for the Author Luncheon and for the tickets purchased by board members and library staff to date.

Community partnerships continue through participation in the Back-To-School Carnival at St. Peter's Church and coordination with contacts at OCPS in sending supplies and books to libraries in Houston which were affected by the hurricane.

The group will hold a book sale in December and host a table at the Block Party. Partnership with the OCHM will likely continue as well after a presentation by the museum director.

BUILDING ISSUES: The City has replaced the faulty irrigation system and sod has been laid. Additional areas are to be completed with concrete. The City team will landscape and maintain the exterior and another bike rack is to be added on the 17th Street side. Fred Marcell thanked Mike Allegretto on behalf of the City for the work and was reassured that PW would also clean the parking lot area periodically.

An electrical contractor supplied lighting above the new coat rack and book shelf provided by the Friends. Troublesome light switches were also replaced with more dependable and traditional ones.

At the request of President Shirk, Director Mahar gave an update on the bed bug situation. The maintenance and removal is on-going. Bugs have not been sighted since the last regimen of treatments. Literature has been made available to staff and patrons and actions have been documented should there be a public inquiry.

Mrs. Mahar reported that a freezing method for treatment is being investigated. President Shirk commended Director Mahar on her immediate action and response to the situation. Fred Marcell also commented that the situation was handled professionally.

OLD BUSINESS: Community Police Officers have begun their scheduled walk-throughs of the premises. Mr. Marcell was pleased to see the police presence.

NEW BUSINESS: Fred Marcell remarked upon a cooperation he became aware of between McDonald's and Harper Collins Publisher in the "Reading Is Fundamental" program. He would like the library to investigate participation in this opportunity to provide books. It was noted that we do provide hundreds of books per year through many outreach programs including "Books for Babies", "First Day of Kindergarten" events, and "Read Across America".

Through a recommendation of Dr. Taylor, the library is pleased to present speaker, Matthew Weber, who will be presenting a program on Digital Archiving.

OC Reads events continue with a visit from the author in October.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ron Denney requested a moment of silence to remember the victims of events from 16 years ago today that changed the American way of life forever. (moment of silence)

ADJOURNMENT: Ron Denney moved to adjourn at 4:45pm with a second from Fred Marcell. All present were in favor.