

Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library
Minutes March 12, 2024, 7PM
Lambertville Free Public Library
6 Lilly St, Lambertville, NJ 08530
Meeting was held in person and via Zoom

The virtual meeting of the Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library was called to order at 7:00 PM by Karen Riedeburg. In addition to Ms. Riedeburg, present were Library Director Jen Sirak, Trustees Albert Bauer, Stephanie Volmer, Walt Jiménez, Ed Hoag, and Kate Winslow.

In compliance with the open public meetings act, it was announced that this was the March 12 meeting of the Trustees, which had been published in The Democrat and filed with the City Clerk for posting on the bulletin board located in City Hall.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the February 13, 2024, meeting were approved unanimously.

Treasury Report

The bills were presented and, on a unanimous vote, the motion to pay bills totaling \$6,266.92 was unanimously approved (resolution 101-2024).

Director's Report by Jen Sirak

- The library had the fire safety inspection follow-up on Monday. Almost everything was rectified or in the process of being rectified. The only piece left is the state elevator inspection, which is a complicated process that JS is initializing with Kencor.
- The security cameras have been updated to have a larger storage drive and more complete camera views of the upstairs.
- We did have an incident with a patron who had to be removed, and the police had to be called in. They were banned for a week, but can now come back in.
- Nothing new to report from the ebook consortium meeting. Everything will remain status quo for the time being (fine for us).
- Downstairs bathroom painting looks amazing—thanks to board member Kathleen Harris and her husband James!
- Storage reorganization has been completed for the first time in a decade or more (the storage closet, storage shelved by the bathrooms and the downstairs elevator room). Now only the records boxes are left as the final frontier to go through.

Children's Librarian Report by Danielle Bey-Mundhenk (submitted via email)

- Will soon place orders for this year's award-winning books (i.e. Newberry, Caldecott, Coretta Scott King, Pura Belpré and Geisel awards). New bilingual and Spanish titles have been purchased as well.
- Bouncy Book Time and Saturday Storytime continue weekly and biweekly, respectively. Saturday Storytime attendance has risen.

- We hosted Read Across America “On to the Reading Races” with LPS and WAS, coordinated with District Reading Specialist Kristin Angst. Attendance, especially on a rainy night, was great!
- The library has been invited to participate in Family Math Night at LPS’s temporary location. DBM will be there.
- Our first Thomas the Tank Engine Day in four years was a huge success, with 181 attendees!

Committee Reports

a. Buildings and Grounds: Met at the end of February. Window repairs are on hold for now. Questions about the painting of the facade came up...can the color scheme be reconsidered? We will reach out to the mayor.

b. Community Outreach: We met 3/4/24 and used the strategic plan to come up with some short-term and long-term goals and events: flyers/pamphlets to new residents via realtors and Chamber, plus postcards that can be sent directly.

- Add a Meet a Trustee section for each newsletter, as a way to introduce the trustees to the public; plus add trustee info to the library newsletter.
- Create another cohosted library–Fisherman’s Mark event to keep building our community.
- Annual events: end of year fundraiser; try to have a presence for local events, like Shad Fest, Memorial Day parade and Pride Parade (the Connelys are building a giant rolling structure that can possibly be used for Pride); look into having a banner made for parades, as well as bookmarks.
- Immediate action items: organize an end of year thank you party. Need to plan this asap! Small thank you gift? EH recommends drafting a local resolution that can be presented at a city council meeting recognizing our patrons.
- Would like to draft a cheat sheet about the library for the board.

c. Finance (covered above in Treasurer’s Report and budget info)

d. Policy: Did not meet.

e. Strategic Planning: Met, tried to break organize what committees should take on what parts of the strategic plan; will discuss more at the next meeting.

Correspondence

From Matt Larkin: He has gotten the IRS tax exemption letter for the new foundation and now needs to create a bank account. He has some questions as he moves forward with the creation of the new foundation. Will revisit.

New Business

No new business.

No public comment

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

