Greensboro Free Library

Annual Business Meeting

March 26, 2019

Present: Hal Gray, Becky Arnold, Virginia Lapierre, Stephanie Thomson, Lise Armstrong, John Miller, Donna Jenckes, Mary Metcalf, Debbie Kasper, Emily Purdy

Absent: Carol Reynolds, Rosann Hickey Cook

* Meeting was called to order by Hal at 4:00.
* Virginia nominated Hal to serve as Chair, Becky as Vice-chair, Carol as Secretary, and Donna as Treasurer. Stephanie seconded. The vote was unanimous.
* Meeting was adjourned at 4:02.

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Board of Trustee Meeting

March 26, 2019

Present: Hal Gray, Becky Arnold, Virginia Lapierre, Stephanie Thomson, Lise Armstrong, John Miller, Donna Jenckes, Mary Metcalf, Debbie Kasper, Emily Purdy

Absent: Carol Reynolds, Rosann Hickey Cook

* Hal called the meeting to order at 4:02.
* Revisions to the agenda were made to give time to Virginia to discuss the Narcan conference she recently attended.
* Minutes of the February 26 meeting were approved.
* Librarian’s report:
  + Mary reported that the fireplace in the Mystery Room was repaired. The repairman suggested that we install an electric fan to circulate the heat from the fireplace to the whole room. An outlet would need to be added in the fireplace. Hal proposed spending up to $250 to install the outlet and purchase the fan. The Board approved.
  + Due to the late spring snows in the South, Mary’s annual vacation will be delayed one week. She plans to be gone from April 7 to the end of May or early June at the latest. Virginia will help to cover some of the necessary tasks in Mary’s absence. The Board approved Virginia to work 10-15 hours a week at a rate of $13.51 an hour to accomplish the task list that Mary has developed. Virginia recused herself from this vote and will continue to recuse herself from any vote at the next two Board meetings that would be a conflict of interest for her as she substitutes in the role of librarian.
  + The USAC grant is in and appears to be complete. We expect to hear by July if the library has been approved for this grant.
  + March 30 there will be a presentation hosted by the library about rural food systems, agricultural economies, and community resilience. This talk, led by Dr. Travis Reynolds, will include 22 students from UVM who have participated in this research. WCAX has been contacted and may attend.
* Youth Librarian report:
  + Emily invited the Board to join the public in the presentation of the Story Keepers program this Thursday evening. Natalie Kinsey has been working with the Lakeview 3-6 graders on researching their family histories. The children have really embraced the project and have even made snacks through the Farm to School program. This program was made possible by a grant applied for by Emily to benefit our Town’s children.
  + There is an upcoming Homeschool Forum to be hosted at the Library. Emily has put together a group of adults who had been homeschooled as children and plans to invite the community to learn more about the homeschool process and the pros and cons of homeschooling from people who experienced it first-hand.
  + Hal thanked Emily for the excellence of her job performance and said that the Board is awarding her a financial bonus.
* Strategic planning:
  + John has made great headway in getting a draft of our 5-year strategic plan ready. He proposed a re-wording and repositioning of the first paragraph and will get some budget figures from Donna. With these additions, he hopes to present the completed draft at the April Board meeting.
* Fundraising:
  + Becky suggested we form a plan that directs us in asking the Town for increases. A thoughtful and reasonable approach would help in the sustainability of GFL. Becky also mentioned learning about a program run by Irasburg Library called “University of Irasburg” and wondered if this might be something worth replicating here in Greensboro. She will gather more information about this program. She is also in the beginning stages of planning the Spring Newsletter and the Summer Raffle.
* Treasurer’s report:
  + Donna reported that any apparent discrepancy between last year’s monthly figures and this year’s is due to the timing of donations and payments, not an actual difference of how much was received or spent. The restricted $20,000 that shows in the budget is in reference to the money that the Town has set aside for the repairs to the building.
* Chairman’s report:
  + Thanks to Stew Arnold and to Mary for the informational hand-out available at Town Meeting that featured pie charts comparing various libraries and the percent of their budget that is provided by their respective towns.
  + Hal will begin working on RFP’s for the repairs that are needed to the building this year.
  + Kudos to Mike Metcalf for the work he has done on the storage room making it much more usable as a storage space for the library. Additional funds will be needed for the replacement of two windows at some point, but that will be addressed once the weather turns warmer. Hal acknowledged the beautiful children’s rocking horse made by Mike Metcalf, who intends this to be part of library fund-raising.
* Old/New business:
  + Website review: No updates to report.
  + Volunteer insurance waiver: Stephanie suggested some changes to streamline the current form. Mary will type up the edits.
  + Summer planning has begun for programming and our raffle.
  + Virginia shared information with the Board from the meeting she attended that talked about libraries and Narcan. The question was posed that with the opioid crisis in the news, is there a role that the library should play in helping people access the help they need? Virginia will ask library volunteer and Hardwick Rescue Squad member Tim Nisbet to attend a future Trustee meeting to help the Board decide what actions, if any, the library should take.
* Meeting was adjourned at 5:59 by unanimous vote.

--Respectfully submitted by Virginia Lapierre.