

FINAL
Prosser Public Library
Library Board of Directors Special Meeting
January 10, 2017

Attendance: Roberta LaMonaca (*Library Director*), Shirley Thompson (*Chairperson*), Harvey Frydman (*Vice-Chairperson*), Beverlee Merritt (*Secretary/Treasurer*), Martha Brackeen-Harris , Joan Geetter, Penny Pearson (*Friends of the Library Representative*)

Absent: Paula Walek

Quorum present? Yes, 5 of 6

Shirley Thompson called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Roll Call – S. Thompson announced the roll call and noted that Paula Walek was absent.

Report from the Friends of the Library

Friends Report – The Friends are gearing up for the second half of their program year, which will include a spring luncheon at Seabury and April book sale. No date or speaker has been finalized for the luncheon.

Director's Report

New iMacs – The four new iMacs, which will replace older iMacs at both libraries, arrived today. They were purchased with funding from the Friends.

Marketing Committee – The library has formed an in-house marketing committee that meets regularly to expand and streamline outreach across a variety of platforms and media.

Fiber Internet for McMahan Wintonbury – The library has officially signed-off on the CEN fiber build for the McMahan Wintonbury library. The \$30,000 cost for this project is being paid for by state and federal grant funds.

Old Business

Computer Usage and Internet Filtering Policy – The town attorney, Marc Needelman, reviewed the revised Computer Usage and Internet Filtering Policy and reported no issues. He stressed the need for staff education and training as the policy is enacted.

New Business

Date for Public Forum on Internet Filtering – The board decided to move the public forum on Internet filtering to the March 14, 2017 board meeting. The library will promote the forum with a press release and other notices.

Library Budget for 2017-18 – The board reviewed the proposed library budget numbers for 2017-18, along with R. LaMonaca's transmittal letter. Most of the increases in the budget reflect routine cost-of-living and step increases for staff, along with the reinstatement of cuts that were made last year. There are two new budget items: a request for new furniture at Prosser, and an increase in the McMahan Wintonbury personnel budget to allow the branch to be open on Mondays. The new furniture, which includes tablet armchairs, mobile DVD racks, a study pod, and end panel shelving for book displays, will make the current building more suitable to library services and the needs of patrons. R. LaMonaca

anticipates budget cuts going forward, due, in part, to decline in fiscal support by the state. Board members are encouraged to attend the budget hearing.

Hoopla and Spotlight Sundays – R. LaMonaca pointed out fliers for two new library offerings: Hoopla, a web service that allows patrons to download a wide range of media; and Spotlight Sundays, the library’s pilot program for offering Sunday events.

Bloomfield Schools – R. LaMonaca recently met with administrators for Bloomfield schools and discussed library services– such as Mango and book/audiobook pairings – that can help students who require ESL assistance. The schools have unveiled a new app that should prove useful for keeping parents up-to-date.

School Vacations and the Library – The board discussed issues relating to unattended children spending significant time at the library during school vacations.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2016 meeting; seconded and approved.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 5:35 PM; seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac,
Technology & Administrative Coordinator