

FINAL
Prosser Public Library
Library Board of Directors Special Meeting
November 9, 2016

Attendance: Roberta LaMonaca (*Library Director*), Shirley Thompson (*Chairperson*), Beverlee Merritt (*Secretary/Treasurer*), Martha Brackeen-Harris , Harvey Frydman , 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 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Shirley Thompson noted that Paula Walek and Joan Geetter were absent. Joan Geetter arrived for the meeting after the roll call was announced.

Report from the Friends of the Library

Fall Book Sale – The fall book sale earned \$2900. The Friends received many positive comments about the library and the staff.

Supporting the Library – The Friends approved \$10,000 to support three library projects: baby bags for newborns/infants, bussing from elementary schools to the library, and new iMac computers for both libraries. The board discussed the possibility of having the schools pay for part or all of the cost of bus service; the Friends plan on doing advocacy with town council and board of education towards that end.

Director's Report

Annual Public Library Report –The library recently filed its annual report for the state library, which was referred to at the ACLB conference. Completion of the report used to be tied to a grant, but the grant is no longer available.

ACLB Conference – Board members shared their positive experiences from this years' conference for the Association of Connecticut Library Boards.

One Book, One Bloomfield – This year's One Book, One Bloomfield generated interesting conversations within the community, even though participation was a bit lower than in years past.

Food for Fines – The library will run a Food for Fines program in February of 2017. The donated food goes to the food pantry run by social services.

Sunday Programming – As a way to expand library offerings within the confines of the present building, the library is planning to offer four Sunday programs in the first few months of 2017. Line dancing, kitchen science, trivia, and musical performers are some of the programs that are being considered.

Cat Election – Over 270 votes were cast in the children's department's cat election. Hello Kitty was the winner.

Capital Budget Planning – R. LaMonaca met with John Lawlor and Ben Whittaker of public works to plan capital improvements for the next five years. Phil Schenck told R. LaMonaca to include funds for a

new library building (\$15 million plus estimated inflation). A new roof at Prosser and parking lot enhancements were also included.

Old Business

Internet Filtering – The board revisited the pros and cons of filtering out pornography on the public PCs. The inherent problems with the reliability of filtering were discussed, along with the financial incentives presented by the availability of E-rate discounts in light of recent state cuts for funding of CEN internet service. **MOTION to request that the Prosser Public Library – in order to comply with CIPA standards, and following a public forum – adapt minimum internet filtering for a trial period lasting until June 30th, 2018;**; seconded and passed.

New Business

2017 Meeting Schedule – The board reviewed the proposed meeting dates for 2017. **MOTION to approve the Prosser Public Library Board’s meeting schedule for 2017, with the stipulation that the June 13 and November 14 meetings be held at the P. Faith McMahon Wintonbury Library;** seconded and passed.

Additional Discussion – The board discussed the need to reach out more to the schools, both through the board of education and the town council; the Friends’ involvement with providing bus trips to the library presents a potential opening. They also discussed the idea of encouraging local and state representatives to tour area libraries, in order to provide examples of what could be possible in Bloomfield.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2016; seconded and approved.

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 6:13 PM; seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac,
Technology & Administrative Coordinator