

FINAL
Prosser Public Library
Library Board of Directors
November 14, 2017

Attendance: Roberta LaMonaca (*Library Director*), Ava Biffer, Martha Brackeen-Harris, Joan Geetter, Beverlee Merritt, Penny Pearson (*Friends of the Library Representative*)

Absent: Harvey Frydman, plus vacant board seat due to election-related issues

Quorum present? Yes, 4 of 6

In lieu of not having a chairperson, R. LaMonaca called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Roll Call – R. LaMonaca announced the roll call and noted the absence of H. Frydman, as well as the open board seat.

Nominations for Board Chair & Other Officers – R. LaMonaca called for nominations for chairperson. J. Geetter and H. Frydman were nominated for chairperson and a vote was called. J. Geetter was elected the new chairperson. B. Merritt was nominated and elected vice-chairperson. M. Brackeen-Harris was nominated and elected secretary/treasurer.

Report from the Friends of the Library

Fall Book Sale – The Friends raised over \$3,300 at the fall book sale.

New Bookmarks – P. Pearson handed out the Friends’ new promotional bookmark, which includes their new logo.

School Trips to Library – Last year, the Friends’ provided funding for bus trips from the schools to the library. Due to issues with staffing and coordination, fewer of those trips were conducted than originally planned, so there are funds remaining that can be spent on trips this year.

Chairperson’s Report – There was no chairperson’s report.

Director’s Report

Board Elections – R. LaMonaca welcomed A. Biffer to the library board, and congratulated A. Biffer and J. Geetter on their election wins.

Little Free Libraries – The library and leisure services are teaming up with Little Hands, Big Things for the first Little Free Library. Pershing Park is the intended location, though the library will likely be installed indoors at leisure services for this winter.

Prosser Remediation – The air-quality report at Prosser revealed the need for additional remediation on the lower level, particularly in the custodial office and the break/study room. Work on the break/study room – which includes replacing the carpeting – will begin on November 24th. Access to that room will be closed for at least a week.

Grant Report – R. LaMonaca worked with Jim Wren, the Finance Director, on consolidating accounts that still have grant funds available. Library staff are working on project ideas that can be launched using these funds.

Presentation to Town Council – R. LaMonaca will give a presentation about the library to the new town council on December 6th, at 6:00 PM, in the Prosser community room. The presentation will be followed by a tour. The board stressed the importance of having board members present, and discussed which priorities to focus on.

Library Connection Meetings – The November meeting of Library Connection’s board of directors will be held at Prosser on Friday, November 17th. Prosser will also host the December 19th meeting of Library Connection’s strategic planning committee, of which R. LaMonaca is a member. The strategic planning committee is looking at issues related to what services to provide members going forward, how to deliver services equitably, and succession planning. R. LaMonaca will check to see if members of the Prosser library board can attend Library Connection’s board meeting.

Online Museum Passes – Museum passes are now available online for Bloomfield patrons to reserve and print from home. A few passes are only available at the library. Non-residents can still checkout passes but must do so at the library.

Old Business – There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Role of the Library Board – J. Geetter initiated a discussion on the role of the library board going forward. The discussion revolved around outreach to the community and council members, building-related advocacy, and the need for a strategic plan.

2018 Meeting Schedule – The board reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2018. **MOTION to adopt the 2018 meeting schedule, with note that June meeting will be held at McMahon Wintonbury Library;** seconded and passed.

Outreach Ideas – The board discussed various outreach ideas, including hosting luncheons with community members, promoting the library at Heirloom Flats, and pop-up libraries at Seabury and Duncaster.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the October 10, 2017 meeting; seconded and approved.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 PM; seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac,
Technology & Administrative Coordinator