

FINAL
Prosser Public Library
Library Board of Directors
October 16, 2018 (Special)

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

Absent: Harvey Frydman

Quorum present? Yes, 5 of 6

J. Geetter called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call – J. Geetter performed roll call and noted the absence of H. Frydman.

Board Attendance – Don Harris, as head of the Democratic Town Committee, has had no success reaching Harvey Frydman about the issue of board meeting attendance, nor does it appear a resignation is imminent. For the time being, the board decided not to pursue any additional actions on this matter.

Report from the Friends of the Library

Fall Book Sale – This year’s fall book sale will be held next week, October 25th-27th. In preparation for the sale, donations are no longer being accepted.

Chairperson’s Report

Town Council Attendance – J. Geetter, A. Biffer and A. Leavitt attended the town council meeting on September 24th, and brought flyers and a list of improvements made to McMahan Wintonbury. One result of their appearance is that R. LaMonaca was asked by the town manager to provide a similar list of improvements for Prosser. Board members will attend the November 13th town council meeting and bring Hoopla promotional items and library card applications.

Director’s Report

Conversation on Race – This past Saturday, R. LaMonaca hosted the second in a three-part Conversation on Race series; 50 people were in attendance. The final discussion will occur on Tuesday, October 30th and feature a panel discussion.

New DVD Shelving – New DVD shelves were delivered to Prosser yesterday. The shelves did not match what was ordered, but since they look good, R. LaMonaca will likely negotiate a discount and keep them.

In Bloom Newsletter – R. LaMonaca showed the board the library’s new one-page (two-sided) quarterly newsletter, “In Bloom.” The idea originated in the marketing committee.

Don White Day – Wednesday, October 17th is Don White Day in Bloomfield. The Bloomfield Messenger ran a nice article, and Don appeared on WDRC in the morning. His public performance will be held at Bloomfield High School at 7:00 PM.

Stories from Patrons – R. LaMonaca shared a letter sent by patron who was thankful for technology assistance she received from Chris Siloac.

Food for Fines – The library will run Food for Fines during November. \$5.00 in fines can be cancelled per every two food items.

National Friends Week – October 21-27 is National Friends of the Library Week. Since the Friends will be busy with the book sale that week, the board approved the use of Prosser funds to purchase ice cream treats for the Friends' November meeting.

Farmington Bank – Due to People's United's recent purchase of Farmington Bank, the Farmington branch on Park Avenue is set to be closed. When the CDs held at Farmington mature, the board may wish to move the funds to a local bank, such as Windsor Federal or Simsbury.

Prep for Heirloom Flats – The board reviewed potential questions to ask during their visit to Heirloom Flats on Thursday, November 8th, and discussed ways of recording answers. J. Geetter and R. LaMonaca will set up a work session prior to the meeting to finalize a survey of library services. The library will order name tags or lanyards for the board.

Constitution Program – Due to the success of the Constitutional Issues series, the library negotiated a deal with Professor Roberta Tansman for additional sessions, one of which will immediately follow the mid-term elections.

Old Business – There was no old business, since the one agenda item – **Follow up to town council presentation in September** – was discussed during the Chairperson's Report.

New Business

Association of CT Library Boards Conference – The year's Association of Connecticut Library Boards Conference will be held on Friday, November 2nd at the University of Hartford. Most of the board expressed an interest in attending. **MOTION to approve funding for library board members to attend ACLB Conference**; seconded and passed.

Building Committee – With the town considering the formation of a standing building committee, which would likely take up the Prosser building project, the board discussed the idea of having a library board member or other library representative as part of a future committee.

Public Comments – There were no public comments.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the September 11, 2018 meeting; seconded and approved.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 PM; seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac,
Technology & Administrative Coordinator