

FINAL
Prosser Public Library
Library Board of Directors
November 13, 2018

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 5:05 p.m.

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

Report from the Friends of the Library

Fall Book Sale – The Friends had another successful fall book sale, raising \$3800.

Ice Cream Treats – P. Pearson thanked R. LaMonaca and the board for the ice cream treats the Friends received at their November meeting, in honor of National Friends of the Library Week.

Chairperson's Report

Heirloom Flats & Town Council Presentation – J. Geetter stated that she would wait until *Old Business* to discuss the Heirloom Flats visit, and that she would not promote Hoopla at tonight's town council meeting, but would instead wait for a meeting with a less intensive agenda.

Director's Report

Don White Day – Bloomfield's Don White Day was a success, with Don speaking to 30 high school students in the morning, as well as school faculty in the afternoon. 55 people attended the evening concert. R. LaMonaca thanked the Friends for funding the program.

Report on Prosser Improvements – Nancy Haynes, the town's purchasing and risk manager, compiled a report on improvements made to Prosser during the past few years and has forwarded it to the town council. The report includes projects that were deferred due to the prospect of a new building. One of these projects, front terrace repair, has become increasingly urgent due to ceiling leaks in the children's storage area.

New DVD Shelving – R. LaMonaca has been in negotiations with R.H. Lord on resolving issues related to the new DVD shelving order. In response to this discussion, R.H. Lord will provide a free shelving unit for the teen area.

Conversations on Race – The three-part Conversations on Race series was very well attended, including an audience of 80 people at the final session. Attendees expressed interest in continuing the series and wrote notes on what they'd like to see. R. LaMonaca and Carol Lennig will meet with moderator Dr. Raja Staggers about planning future events.

Interview Skills Workshop – R. LaMonaca and Rosa Matias (from human resources) will teach an interview skills workshop to two groups of students at the high school on Wednesday, November 14th. The idea for the sessions arose out of the internship interview process, and will include mock interviews,

group discussion, and a Job Now demonstration. M. Brackeen-Harris advised on ways to encourage students to practice skills they may not be comfortable with, such as making eye contact and talking about themselves.

Food for Fines – The library is running a food for fines drive during the month of November.

Library Journal Article – R. LaMonaca shared a Library Journal article with the board that explores the library's role as both host and guest within the community.

Old Business

Discuss Presentation to Town Council – J. Geetter addressed this item in her report as chairperson.

Heirloom Flats Visit – The library board's meet and greet visit to Heirloom Flats went well, resulting in 30 new library cards. The board discussed other possible locations for such an event. The focus group questions didn't work as well with the meet and greet style of the event, so a different approach may need to be considered for the future. J. Geetter stressed that face-to-face advocacy – without an ask – that focuses on the usefulness of the library can be an effective way to garner support for a new building. R. LaMonaca will compose a list of possible meet and greet locations.

New Business

2019 Schedule of Meetings – The board reviewed the meeting dates and decided to hold the June meeting at McMahan Wintonbury, as it has in the past. A July or August meeting can be added as a special meeting if needed. **MOTION to formally adopt the 2019 meeting schedule;** seconded and passed.

Building Project – The board discussed the potential for a library building project going to referendum in November 2019. The discussion touched on the importance of finding funds to hire an architect to update the plans from Tai-Soo Kim, as well as the various deadlines and requirements that would need to be met. To get a better sense of what steps the board can begin to take now, J. Geetter will schedule a meeting with Phil Schenck to discuss the town's current plans and objectives.

Public Comments – There were no public comments.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2018 meeting; seconded and approved.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 PM; seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Siloac,
Technology & Administrative Coordinator