

BRAINERD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 28, 2023

PRESENT: Tom Piezzo, Holly Jarrell, Cheryl Czuba, David Neal, Myra Aronow, Terry Twigg, Terry Smith, Lorraine Reiss, Margaret Adams, Cindy Tillson, Lynne Cooper, Pam Crum

VIA ZOOM: Mary Karkutt-Kulak

Meeting called to order at 7:01 P.M. by President Terry Twigg

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

REVIEW OF AGENDA AND PRESIDENTS' COMMENTS:

Terry noted that we will be discontinuing the use of Zoom as it is very distracting, and Trustees are now able to attend in person.

SECRETARY'S: January and February minutes were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Norm Needleman was available at the library Monday March 27. Marijean requested guidance on funding for several library enhancements including EV charging stations and a building generator. There may be partial grants available, and Tom is following up with both Norm and Christine Palm to apply where funds are available. Norm advised that the State of Connecticut has some remaining COVID relief funds that may be in play.
- Tom requested that the Board consider timing on a grant application for website redesign.
- Tom is presenting at Club 60 on 4/17/23 to publicize and support library services.
- A seed library was launched with seeds donated by UCONN.
- A Prom Dress program generated 20 dress donations.
- Card Angels have returned to BML.
- The George Brainerd photo exhibit is in the planning phase.
- A model swing bridge exhibit has been a great success with children and adults.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY:

- Holly explained proposed changes to the calculation of Trustee term limits under Article IV, section 4.3 of the Bylaws. Simply stated, if a Trustee is appointed after July 1, then their first term will start the following July,

thereby ensuring at least three full years. This change will be voted for approval at the April Meeting.

- There were two additional Bylaw amendments approved in 2020 and 2021. Holly is working with Tom on the process to implement these amendments as well as the new term limit amendment noted above.

NOMINATING:

- Myra reported great progress filling Chair positions as well as new Board seats. At the meeting there were two outstanding issues remaining. Nominating and Communications chair positions are still not filled. Since the meeting however Myra has reported that Marijean Conrad will rejoin the board in June, and she will Chair nominating.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: No report

STRATEGIC PLAN: No report

INTERIOR RENOVATIONS:

- A contract was signed with Silver/Petrucelli for finishes and furnishings in the Community Room.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

- A finalized price and scope of work was established with Simmons Construction for the driveway, EV stub out, regrading and seeding, and a new concrete curb along the butterfly garden to fix the drainage problem, and replacement of the light pole (covered by insurance). Work will be completed in one week.
- Lance will complete overseeding in the Fall.

FINANCE:

- Lynne reported that the committee is scheduled to meet April 5th.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

- Margaret updated regarding plans for the Capital Campaign.
- A fundraising brochure is being circulated for comment. This brochure will be used at an event to kick off the campaign the last week in April. An invitation list of town leaders and potential leadership donors has been created.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

- KayCee Blancaflor has agreed to Chair Friends as Cherry steps down in June. The board voted to accept KayCee as a Trustee representing Friends.
- The major upcoming item on the Friends agenda is Ag Day and planning is well underway.
- Cherry reported that an anonymous gift of \$1500 was received from a new Friends donor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ ACTION ITEMS:

- None to report

Meeting adjourned at 8:01P.M.

The next meeting date will be April 25 at 7 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Margaret Adams, Secretary

(draft)