Minutes of the Regular Library Board of Trustees Meeting by Zoom
May 19, 2020

Attendance: Board members John Bertoni, Patrice Cummings, Gretchen Dempsey, Rich Diegnan, Jeff Hammond, Mark Krook, Lucy Orfan, Skip Orza, and Terry Thompson were present at the meeting. Alexandria Arnold, Executive Director, Bernardsville Public Library, Nancy Verduin, President of the Friends of the Bernardsville Public Library, Leslie Brown-Witt, President of the Bernardsville Library Foundation, and library staff members Kat Carty, Laura Cole, Madelyn English, and Tammy Shaw were also present.

President John Bertoni called the Board of Trustees (“Board”) meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and read the Open Meeting Notice, followed by the roll call.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 21, 2020 meeting were approved with one correction.

Director’s Report: The roof has been completed, with two extra additions to the original specifications. The full-time staff is working on a reduced schedule, and planning for curbside delivery of materials when the governor allows it. Terry Thompson moved to allow curbside service on the governor’s schedule; Mark Krook seconded the motion, which carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Mr. Krook noted that spending in the last month had been consistent with the estimates given to the borough. He moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report, to pay the new bills received from May 1-9, 2020 and to ratify the payment of bills received and paid from April 21-30, 2020. Lucy Orfan seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Reports: Finance: Mr. Krook reported on his discussion with the Borough Finance Committee, saying that they were pleased with the approach the library had taken to reducing its budget request, that it appeared that would be the only reduction the library budget would see, and that the committee hoped to be able to provide the matching funds for the doors and we should file the grant application.

Personnel and Long-Range Planning did not meet; Policy will meet tomorrow morning to discuss policy changes that may be necessary to address the reopening of the library, like requiring face coverings and social distancing.

Public Participation:

Nancy Verduin, for the Friends, reported that the Friends have not met but will have a virtual meeting in June.

Leslie Brown-Witt, for the Foundation, reported on the financials, that their letter would go out the end of June, and that they were still planning the wine and beer tasting for the beginning of October.

Communications: None.

Unfinished Business: Ms. Arnold reported that the blood drive was looking less likely due to new square footage requirements from the Red Cross.

New Business: None.

At 6.22 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry A. Thompson, Secretary