

Minutes Oak Bluffs Public Library Board of Trustees
Monthly Meeting, December 9, 2021
3:30pm: Library Conference Room

Present at the meeting: Marney Toole, Chair, Scottie Vail, Secretary, Pam Melrose, Vice Chair, Pat Washington, Heather Boyle. By conference call: Kathy Taylor. Visitors: none

Marney Toole, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35pm. She stated the procedure to be followed during the meeting to allow every Trustee to be heard.

MSP: To approve the November 10, 2021 meeting with two wording changes made by the Secretary.

Covid Impact Update: Allyson announced that planned indoor gatherings have been cancelled. There are no plans to relax restrictions at this time due to the recent rise in cases both here on the Island and statewide.

Children's Librarian Search: Allyson reported that the hiring team met on 12/9 to review information from three applications. Two of these candidates are considered seriously interested in pursuing this position. The first two weeks of January will be reserved for interviews. The position will continue to be posted and advertised until further notice.

FY23 Budget Review by Allyson: Prior to this meeting the Trustees received the Budget electronically for review. The increase is ½% to 1% without salary adjustments which are not yet available. Allyson clarified the sources of funding for Project Illuminate and why funds are needed. She noted that old population figures were used by the State and will need to be adjusted. This figure affects what the library is required to spend on materials.

Lighting Update: Allyson reviewed the history of our lighting issues. Recently RISE has provided an LED solution to solve the problems with our overhead lighting fixtures. A sample has been received, installed and works. The rest of the inserts will be ordered and installed by RISE. The timeline for installation is to be determined. This solution will result in brighter lights and a decrease in electricity usage.

Trustee By-Law Changes Review: Marney presented the By-laws as amended at November meeting. A request was made to open discussion regarding changes to Article 9. Two separate wording changes were suggested and, after discussion, the following wording for Article 9 met with the Board's approval:

“Providing that a motion presenting an amendment was duly made and seconded at the previous meeting and posted, these By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board with a minimum of (4) four votes.”

MSP: That the Board accepts the changes we have made to our By-Laws to be proposed for adoption at our next regular meeting.

Reopening Celebration: Allyson reported on her recent meeting with the CLAMS Board. She is suggesting that the library host an Open House on January 29, 2022 as a way to publicize that the library is fully open and draw people into the library. This replaces plans to have a Grand Reopening Celebration. The Open House would take place over a 3-hour period. There could be stations set up such as a sewing machine demo with hands-on opportunities, something musical, an information table for the Friends, etc. The Friends support this idea and will donate funds if needed for supplies. The Trustees agreed this is a great idea. Allyson will do a press release.

November Reports: Allyson answered a few questions regarding the monthly report. She announced that Sherwood is the Town's new IT consultant. He has been very responsive and is advocating having an IT plan for the library.

The meeting concluded with an Informal discussion regarding how best to serve special needs patrons. It was suggested that providing flexible electronic devices might be preferable to large-print books, especially for children.

MSP: To adjourn the meeting at 4:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scottie Vail, Secretary

Actions: After the holidays Allyson will advertise the Open House.

