

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting
February 27, 2012

Present: Nancy Brandon; Matt Byrnes; Peter Coffin (Chair); Marc Colamaria; Barbara Dobbin; Rob Ellis; Karin Fallon; Liz Kelly; Robert McKean; Cloris Pearson; Mary Mann Smith; Patricia Tenney; Bob Whitton

Others present: Library Director Christina Nolan; Assistant Director Mary Rindfleisch; Rebecca Bryan, R. Bryan Associates; Leslie Vuilleumier, Executive Assistant

Excused: Philip Lodewick

Call to Order

Chairman Peter Coffin called the Board meeting to order on February 27, 2012 at 7:35 pm in the Dayton Program Room of the Ridgefield Library.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 23, 2012 Board meeting were approved as written. Board Meeting minutes of January 30 and February 6, 2012 were approved with corrections.

Chairman's Announcements

Chairman Peter Coffin thanked Bob Whitton for his work on the PowerPoint presentation developed for the Town meeting.

Temple Shearith Israel is having a fundraiser and donating a portion of the proceeds to the Ridgefield Library. All Board Members are welcome to attend the event and monetary donations will be accepted.

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including Executive Committee and Development Reports was made and approved.

Friends of the Ridgefield Library

Ann Jepson, Friends President reported the children's book sale brought in almost \$5,000.

Karin Fallon reported for the Advocacy Committee. The Friends Advocacy Committee meets every Wednesday at noon. They are organizing a phone bank. The Friends Advocacy committee will be obtaining referendum signs and distributing them. Signs will be available for yard display starting next Tuesday, March 06, 2012. After the referendum a Thank You sticker will be placed on each sign. Absentee ballot packets will be sent out to people not able to get to the voting location. Names for these packets should be given to the committee. Letters to the Editor can be written by anyone. If interested the letters should be ready by Sunday and are limited to 150 words. They can be emailed to the Ridgefield Press or to the Danbury News Times. The committee suggests sending out a personal email to your personal email addresses a few days before the March 13 vote reminding them to vote.

Consideration of Naming Opportunities

A new proposal for naming opportunities was presented to the Board for their consideration. This proposal has been updated since the initial release of this document in the original case statement of May 2010. There are 12 options in the gift level of \$100K to \$199,999 for naming opportunities. Naming Options in the \$200K - \$999,999 gift level are the Board Room, which has already been purchased, and 10 additional spaces.. The Library Commons and the lower level Larger Program Room are the options for the \$1 Mil - \$3.9 Mil gift level. There is only one anonymous donor in the \$4 - \$5 Mil gift level. Donors that fall into these gift levels will be contacted to discuss a naming opportunity in the order of when they made their donation. There was a motion to approve the new naming opportunities presented. Motion carried. This will replace the earlier Naming Opportunities outlined in May 2010.

The Library Board moved to go into Executive Session to discuss honorary naming possibilities. Chris Nolan, Mary Rindfleisch and Leslie Vuilleumier were allowed to remain. The Executive Session ended.

Consideration of Praxair Naming Opportunity

A possible naming opportunity for Praxair's grant and the new Ridgefield Library's Leed Certification was discussed. Praxair's contact is Sally Savoia, former Ridgefield Library Board Member and Praxair employee. Robert McKean will circulate additional information on the Praxair Company to Board Members. Comments on the circulated hand-outs should be sent to Chris Nolan and Rebecca Bryan.

Consideration of Transfer of Assets to Campaign

The Library received the proceeds for the \$4 million bequest to the Ridgefield Library. A motion made by Rob Ellis, seconded by Marc Colamaria, to transfer these monies into the Campaign project. This was voted upon and approved.

Building Committee

The Initial Cost Estimate with Valued Engineering is completed. The cost was over what was anticipated. Several items were eliminated to bring the cost back to the \$20 million amount. –The outdoor courtyard costs will be jointly shared with the Prospector Theater (old Webster Bank) owners next door. There is a Village Commission meeting on Tuesday, February 28 to review the exterior plans. Planning and Zoning will meet on March 13 at 7:30 p.m.to review the plans.

A motion was made for approval of \$290K for the 2nd addition of the Construction Design Phase contingent upon the referendum passing. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.

Consideration of Closing on 25 Prospect Property

The Jensions asked for an extension from the Library Board on the due diligence period based on Planning & Zoning approval. Therefore the closing may be later than anticipated. A motion was made to allow a due diligence extension until May to the Jensions. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved. Vote was 11 yes, 1 no.

Development Committee

Karin Fallon announced that Nancy Brandon is officially her co-chair for the committee.

The Annual Appeal contributions are down from last year at this time. The committee is proceeding with the follow-up appeal mailing and will be working on an action sheet for fund raising the needed appeal money.

The first Tables of Content fund raising event – Spinning Yarns - was very well received on February 23rd.

The committee is holding a meeting on Thursday, March 8th to plan the last event in the building.

Paula Poundstone is performing at the Ridgefield Playhouse and has designated all proceeds from the book signing portion go to the Ridgefield Library. The Ridgefield Newcomers are sponsoring a Gala event in May with proceeds going to the Ridgefield Library.

Interim Operations

The Balducci's site will begin remediating the space and expect to start within the next ten days. Use of the basement by the Friends would be allowed. An increase of \$2 per square foot in the rental fee will be charged for the interim space. A lease has not yet been finalized

Adjournment

The Library Board meeting was adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Recorded and respectfully submitted,
Leslie Vuilleumier
Executive Assistant