

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting
March 26, 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; Bob Whitton

Others present: Library Director Christina Nolan; Leslie Vuilleumier, Executive Assistant

Excused: Philip Lodewick; Patricia Tenney

Call to Order

Chairman Peter Coffin called the Board meeting to order on March 26, 2012 at 7:35 pm in the Dayton Program Room of the Ridgefield Library.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 27, 2012 Board meeting were approved as written.

Chairman's Announcements

Chairman Peter Coffin thanked the Friends, Karin Fallon and Cloris Pearson for their hard work in getting the word out to vote at the Referendum on March 13, 2012. The Friends Advocacy Group did a great deal of work to help this succeed. A congratulations card from former board member, Bev Rogers was passed around. Having this Referendum pass is a major milestone to be proud of.

Language for the Praxair grant request was revised, submitted and considered by the Board. It was approved by the Board. Praxair gave a \$100K grant to the Capital Campaign.

Consent Agenda

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

Friends of the Ridgefield Library

Through the hard work and enthusiasm of the Friends, approximately \$50,000 has been raised through their internet book sales this year. The recent paperback book sale brought in about \$850.

Nominating Committee

Cloris Pearson and Barbara Dobbin will be leaving the board at the end of June. Chairman Peter Coffin asked the Board to think about possible candidates to fill these spots and the skill sets needed for Personnel, Finance, Development and Engineering/Construction Areas. Send any suggestions of individuals to consider to Peter Coffin. A call for self-nominations has been sent to the Ridgefield Press and will be appearing on March 29 and April 5. Application packets will be sent to interested parties and are requested to be returned to Library Director Chris Nolan by April 10.

Campaign

Following the election results of the successful Referendum on March 13, Philip Lodewick, Campaign Chair sent out thank you letters to everyone that donated to the campaign. The next event – Cinco de Mayo will be at the Harford's on May 5. Current donors and prospective donors will be invited. The Paccadolmi Awards were suggested to go to Lori Dowling for leadership and Marsha Simha for volunteerism. Marsha is the artist that is credited for the Capital Campaign Community Mural. A motion to accept these nominees was voted on and passed. These awards may be given at the Harford event.

Development Committee

The Finance and Development Committees reviewed the Gift Acceptance Policy at their respective committee meetings in advance of this Board meeting. A draft of this was presented to the Board for their consideration. A few questions remain. Once those are resolved, this Gift Acceptance Policy will be presented to the full Board for their approval.

The Annual Appeal and Guardian Society membership is down from last year at this time. The Committee will discuss ways to bring up those numbers at the next Development meeting.

The last Tables of Content event – Hail to Ale is this Friday, March 30.

The Committee is working on a Celebration event honoring the old Library building scheduled for June 1st and 2nd. June 1st will be a ticketed evening cocktail party fundraiser with a silent and live auction for 200 people. June 2nd will be a free Open House for all ages with events during the day.

Nancy Brandon, Co-chair of the Development Committee, will email Board members to sign-up and speak at event dates coming up soon.

Proceeds from the Paula Poundstone book signing and the Newcomers May 19th Gala will benefit the Library.

Interim Operations

At this time, there are no expected move dates or terms of a lease to announce. The committee is looking at an alternate site and awaiting floor loading testing to be completed.

Building Committee

The Committee is in the Construction Document (CD) Phase and must move ahead on the Fixtures/Furniture/Equipment (FFE) phase so the CD phase is not held up. It was suggested that the Library hire an Owner Representative. Concerns about the State Grant and their restrictions will also be investigated by the Committee. On Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 PM, the Building Committee will meet to address these items.

A resolution to authorize Library Director Chris Nolan to sign contracts pertaining to the State Library Grant and building project was so moved, voted on and passed. The Ridgefield Library Board Re-Affirmed their support of this project and the State Library Grant.

Finance

The Finance Committee will be going to the Town Board of Finance meeting on Tuesday, March 27th to discuss the transition budget. The Town wants an update of campaign contributions and a timeline indicating when the \$5 million will be needed.

The Finance Committee approved sending \$42K towards the underfunding of the Defined Benefit Pension plan to ING on Tuesday, March 27. A meeting is scheduled for April 9th with the Finance Committee and Peter Buck. The entire Board is invited to attend this as well. This meeting will bring us current with the Pension filings and the next steps.

Adjournment

The Library Board meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Recorded and respectfully submitted,
Leslie Vuilleumier
Executive Assistant