

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting
April 23, 2018

Present: Amanda Bergen; Michelle Booth; Lynn Consentino; Steve DeMatteo, Magda Fincham; Rob Freeman, Jr.; Tom Gerhard; Alison Greeley; Tizzie Mantione; Dean Miller, Chair; Gary Rapp, Treasurer; David Yaun

Others present: Brenda McKinley, Library Director; Lauren Bubniak, Director of Development;

Excused: Matt Byrnes, Vice-Chair; Secretary; Rob Ellis; Woody Harford; Julie Yaun, Friends of Ridgefield Library

Call to Order

Board Chair Dean Miller called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM in the Dayton Program Room

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 26, 2018 Library Board meeting were approved with corrections.

Chair's Announcements

Chair Dean Miller expressed condolences over Mary Rindfleisch's passing. The Library will have an Open House on Sunday, May 20, 6 – 8 PM in memory of Mary. An email going out will request finger desserts and Chef Liz from Nature's Temptations will prepare something light for attendees. The Library will give out bookmarks with Jamison Odone's artwork as a memento. Sometime this summer, Joe Keneally, Mary's husband, will have another gathering in Sherman, CT for their friends and family.

Director's Report

Brenda McKinley's report was sent in the Board Packet. Brenda added that the staff has taken on Mary Rindfleisch's duties. There are some items that will be put off until a future date. Mary Lee, Adult Services Librarian retired on Thursday, April 19 and Sonta Frindt (from the Children's Services Department) has been hired to replace her. Therefore, Children's will be looking for a new Librarian Assistant. Erica Gauquier will be going on maternity leave at the end of May and Megan Klein will be coming back to fill in for her over the summer.

Friends Update

Lauren Bubniak gave the Friends update from Julie Yaun. In March, the Friends sold 342 items online and grossed over \$6,600.

They are getting ready for their spring book sales which are coming up quickly. The Children's Book Sale is May 4-6. That weekend they only sell children's books. The General Sale, with books for adults and children, runs May 11-14. They will have two non-profit sessions: 6:30-8:00 the evening of May 14th and from 10-4 on May 15th. They have invited over 50 organizations and hope to give away lots of books to Non-profit organizations who can use them.

Finance Committee

Gary Rapp reported that the operating budget is currently on the positive side. The committee is working on the amount of the Investment draw in June to supplement the budget.

There has been no update from the BOF concerning the Library budget and capital request yet. The town votes on May 7.

On May 3, 6 – 8 PM, two representatives from Bar Harbor will be at the Library to present a quarterly update. This informal session is opened to all Board Members. Let Gary know if you plan to attend.

Governance Committee

David Yaun reported that 3 board members will be leaving – Dean Miller, Matt Byrnes and Amanda Bergen at the end of this FY. Three board members are up for another 3-year term renewal – Michelle Booth, Tom Gerhard and Magda Fincham. A motion to renew these three members was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

The Slate of Officers for FY 18-19 are Chair – Gary Rapp, Vice-Chair – David Yaun, Treasurer – Steve DeMatteo and Secretary – Alison Greeley. A motion to accept this slate was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

The interviews of the self-nominees for open Board positions were completed. Four candidates were chosen – Carrie Wells, Paul Mellinger, Bill Magill and John Bennett. A motion to move forward with these four candidates, dependent upon Rudy Marconi's confirmation was made, seconded, voted on and approved.

Development Committee

Laureen Buberniak reported that the gala has brought in \$130K (to date, before expenses) and approximately 210 people will be attending the event on Saturday, April 28. On that same day, Ridgefield Supply will be promoting a new line of grills. They will donate \$25 for every grill they sell from then until Labor Day to the Ridgefield Library.

Other dates to remember: May 12 – Beer, Wine and Cocktail tasting at Ancona's new Ridgefield store, 10% of sales benefit Library; May 13 – Run Like a Mother event; May 24 – Guest Bartender Night at Gallo; June 7 – Poker tournament at Waccabuc Country Club; Month of July – Bareburger 10% of bill fundraiser for the Library; August – RidgeCon; September – Maryfrances Metrick event and Love Your Library Weekend.

Technology Committee

Tom Gerhard reported that the committee continues to meet on the website project. The launch will be sometime in September.

Strategic Planning

Rob Freeman and Alison Greeley reported on the updated Mission, Vision and Objectives statements documented in the Board Packet along with the Values. Any comments may be given to Alison or Rob before they meet again on Monday, April 30.

Community Pulse – Heard Around Town

A few items were brought up:

- Jesse Lee Church is sponsoring a free concert at the Ridgefield Playhouse on May 12, 7 PM – Hope for Mental Illness. All are welcome.
- A comment made on Facebook about the expense of the Nature’s Temptation Fund raiser was discussed. A suggestion of having two visual templates that distinguish a fund raiser from a free program event at the Library was made and will be looked into.
- On April 4, Brenda attended the Jesse Lee Martin Luther King Jr. community conversation with facilitators from CT Center for Nonviolence. It was a worthwhile program and she was happy she could attend.
- The final session for the Ms. US President was held on Friday, April 20. On May 6, 3 – 5 PM at the Ridgefield Playhouse, they will campaign and the public can vote for their choice. The winner will preside at Ridgefield events with Rudy Marconi for the coming year.
- National School Walk-Out was on Friday, April 20. David Yaun’s son, Grant was recognized as one of four students instrumentally involved in this event.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Vuilleumier
Executive Assistant