

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting
November 16, 2015

Present: Amanda Bergen; Michele Booth; Matt Byrnes; Marc Colamaria (Board Chair); Tom Gerhard; Dean Miller; George Nichols; Gary Rapp; Mary Mann Smith; Bob Whitton

Others present: Mary Rindfleisch, Assistant Director; Laureen Bubniak, Director of Development; Leslie Vuilleumier, Executive Assistant; Rhonda Hill, Friends of the Ridgefield Library; Liz Kelly, Former Board Member

Excused: Shane Casey; Rob Ellis; Magda Fincham; Woody Harford; David Yaun; Chris Nolan, Library Director;

Call to Order

Board Chair Marc Colamaria called the Board meeting to order at 7:40 pm on November 16, 2015 in the Randolph Board Room at the Ridgefield Library.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 26, 2015 Library Board meeting were approved with corrections.

Chairman's Announcement

Marc Colamaria, Board Chair asked that the Board Members reach out to Chris Nolan through Rhonda Hill during the upcoming weeks. Chris Nolan had ankle surgery and is in need of help through Dec 23.

Marc stated that Camp Snooze this year was successful with 94 boys and girls attending.

Search Committee Exercise

It was moved and seconded for the Board to move into executive session for purposes of a search committee exercise. Approval was unanimous. Only the Board proper, Liz Kelly and Rhonda Hill, as part of the Committee remained. Mary Rindfleisch, Leslie Vuilleumier and Laureen Bubniak left the room.

The Board went into executive session. After their discussion, the meeting reconvened.

Friends of the Ridgefield Library

Rhonda Hill, President of the Friends reported the Friends took 100 boxes of books to Hartford after the book sale. This fall's gross receipts from the sale were the biggest gross receipts ever. Internet sales are up as well.

Staff Spotlight

Dorothy Pawlowski, Head of the Adult Services Department presented an overview to the Board Members of the Data Resources available to patrons in and out of the Library. HOOPLA is a new product that was demonstrated which allows for downloadable books, movies, music, comics and e-books. Lynda.com has over 3,400 online video courses offered for commercial

software. Zinio offers digital magazines for mobile devices or computers. STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) will encompass maker space activities in the Library. The staff is looking for instructors to give courses in the STEAM areas to the patrons.

Development Committees

Development – Lauren Bubniak, Director of Development passed out the dashboard. The Teen Trivia Fund raiser brought in \$8K. Annual Appeal gifts have totaled \$23K to date. Lauren distributed call lists for Board Members to thank Guardian Society donors. Board Members were thanked for writing notes on Annual Appeal Letters.

During the Thanksgiving weekend, Books on the Common will return 15% of the receipts to the Library of their patrons showing a library card. The Holiday Stroll takes place the following weekend, December 4 & 5 with the Library offering gift wrapping of presents to strollers along with selling items from the Library Store to the public.

Finance Committee

Gary Rapp, Board Treasurer announced the budget through October was ahead significantly with investments up 3.7%. The committee would like to present the 2016-17 budget to the Board in December in preparation for town's submittal in January.

Communications Committee

Amanda Bergen and her committee met last week and decided the website update project be tabled until funding is available. The committee will be working on a non-profit message to the Town concerning the Library's funding structure.

Update on Library Store

The Library Store now offers a variety of Library themed greeting cards. Electronic device power sources are on order as well as the Sticky Books.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Vuilleumier
Executive Assistant