

Ridgefield Library Board Meeting –September 29, 2014

Present: Amanda Bergen, Matt Byrnes, Shane Casey, Marc Colamaria (Chair), Woody Harford, Liz Kelly, Philip Lodewick, Gary Rapp, Mary Mann Smith, Bob Whitton, David Yaun

Absent: Rob Ellis, Dean Miller, David Schaffer

Others Present: Christina Nolan (Library Director), Laureen Bubniak (Director of Development), Mary Rindfleisch (Assistant Director), Rhonda Hill (Friends President)

The September 29, 2014 meeting of Ridgefield Library Board of Directors was called to order at 7:35 pm at the Leir Retreat Center, 220 Branchville Road, Ridgefield by Marc Colamaria, Board Chair.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Philip Lodewick, seconded by Woody Harford, that the minutes of the August 25, 2014 Library Board meeting be approved with minor corrections. Motion carried.

Chairman's Announcements

The Governance Committee will be considering how to deal with the resignation of Lorraine Mellon.

Friends

Friends President, Rhonda Hill reported that they have 2 new Board members on the Friends Board: Julie Yaun (working on disposal of leftover books following the sale) and Marie Pinchbeck (Hospitality). Their membership is close to 210. In June, their Annual Meeting was a lovely dinner to thank the Friends' membership for being valuable members of the Library Team. This was a celebration for the years of hard work on book sales and to recognize their major contribution towards the new building. Rhonda also noted that the on line sales component of the book sales is having an especially strong year—the best ever. During the time period between January and August, the on line team have sold nearly 500 items and brought in nearly \$56,000.

Development Update

Laureen Bubniak, Director of Development updated the Board on Development. She reviewed the results of the Annual Appeal that ended June 30, 2014. Plans for Fund Raising (FR) for this year were outlined. Liz Kelly is working on the Appeal design and pricing for this upcoming year. Alexander Isley is doing the design and printing work. We will be sending out some targeted email communications to certain segments (new card holders since May; 10 years of consecutive giving; and program attendees). Plans pertaining to a FR special event of a Wild Game Dinner for a male only audience will help us reach a new audience. There will be a Downton Abbey event as well. Initial plans for the annual gala, Great Expectations 2015 were shared.

We are in the final year of our 3 year Development Plan. Work on creating the new plan will begin shortly.

Mary Rindfleisch distributed the latest Campaign Raised to Date report.

FINAL CONSIDERATION OF POLICIES RELATED TO 3-D PRINTING

Modifications to these documents that had been suggested at the last meeting have been incorporated. The Board considered these and adopted these as policies.

BIG READ

Mary Rindfleisch, the Assistant Director gave a very nice preview of the Big Read: The Great Gatsby. The Playhouse and the Ridgefield Library partnered on a grant application to the National Endowment for the Arts last winter. This is a competitive grant and we were the only recipient in the state of Connecticut. We are collaborating with more than 30 non-profits in town to offer many programs and experiences to enhance the understanding and reading of this classic book. Mary distributed the brochure and encouraged folks to also see the webpage for late additions to the array of programs. We are looking to offer a book discussion with the Board and staff together, guided by Mary. A date will be selected.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Recorded and respectfully submitted,
Christina B. Nolan
Library Director