

Present: John, Trause, Sheila Sterling, Ann Sullivan, Eileen Gabrielle, Ed Pflieger
Jim Lessersohn, Amy Syracuse (AES), Claire Beslow
Absent: Carol Blakeslee (AB)

Regular Business:

1. Photograph of Trustees (picture not taken because one of the trustees was absent)
2. Approval of Minutes of the January (AS, JL)
3. Approval of Financials (CB, EG)
 - a. Went over some December 2014 reports
 - b. Went over January 2015 reports
 - 1) Everything looking good for the beginning of this year
4. Acceptance of Information Services and Youth Services Report (AS, CB)
 - a. Discussed few points in the report
 - b. Both librarians suggested that they were a bit overwhelmed by what was expected of her this month; Amy questioned if they were making the most effective use of their time; the situation was discussed; John will add our appreciation of all of their hard work to the minutes of his staff meeting tomorrow
5. Acceptance of January 2015 Director's Report (AS, EG)
 - a. Discussed the need for more volunteers for the Friends – John will address this in the newsletter and Ed will announce it at the Council meeting
6. Quarterly feature: Advocacy Action Sheet (BCCLS Advocacy Committee)-none this month

Correspondence

1. Tony Aurigemma, Vice-President of the Friends of the Library sent a hand-written note to John thanking him for the Volunteer Breakfast last Saturday

Old Business:

1. Customer Service Survey
 - Discussed the progress of the survey—over 150 completed on-line and at least 10 written ones submitted thus far
 - Amy would like to try to get about 300 responses; we discussed ways to encourage more people to respond
2. Library Budget presentation – follow-up
 - Ed thought that the presentation was very good in that it showed exactly where we are and how things got to this point
 - The Council has not yet convened to discuss all of the budgets—waiting for guidelines from the State
 - Ed would like more Council members to have an understanding of how the Library Board operates-perhaps rotate the liason position more frequently, perhaps every year or so; also suggested that John publicize the patron utilization numbers
 - Ed would like to see the employees get at least a small raise; he'd also like to see the Library get at least some Sunday hours returned, and he'd like us to get some additional money for acquisitions
 - Amy asked questions about the distribution of acquisition monies between the adult and children's collections—this was also discussed

- Jim explained that what we had asked for in the presentation was only what we really need—that there is so much more that we could use to better service the community
 - We gave Ed a bit of history as to why we, after 2008, have had a challenge keeping to our budget (with the Library's taking on of the employees' benefits and the decline in real estate values on which the minimum formula for funding public libraries is based)
3. Technology Initiative
- a. Burns and Roe is donating some old laptop computers to us—we will update them the best we can
 - b. Robin submitted a proposal for increasing the technology- we talked a bit about the Makerspace initiative
 - c. Lin Loh volunteers in the Junior Room doing science experiments, etc. and is helping with our Makerspace.

New Business:

1. Ed asked us to provide him with some bullet points to announce at the two Council meetings each month
2. Amy brought up the question on fund-raising that was asked at the budget presentation
 - a. She suggested that perhaps we consider doing something at the Fourth of July celebration—perhaps sell ice cream after the parade or something on that order; or maybe a smaller scale evening function
3. Jim suggested that the Foundation be encouraged to do these fund-raisers; one reason is that the Board doesn't have the resources to do it

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47. (AES, EG)

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Beslow