

Library Board of Directors
Somers Public Library
October 4, 2021

Members present: Lisa Gladysz, Gene Grayson, Mike Gruber, Dave Marti, Bonnie Mazzoli, Andy Phillips,
Sharon Renzoni, Bob Socha, Shirley Warner
Also present: Marie Stromwall, Interim Library Director

Chairperson Andy Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Minutes from the September 13 and September 24, 2021 meetings were presented and reviewed. S. Renzoni moved to approve the Sept 13th minutes; seconded by S. Warner; abstention: B. Mazzoli. Approved. B. Mazzoli moved to approve the Sept 24th minutes; seconded by D. Marti; abstention: G. Grayson. Approved.

First Audience to Citizens: Mr. Jack Kertenis, candidate for the library board in the upcoming election, introduced himself to the Board.

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was distributed by S. Renzoni. She reported that the \$5,000 transfer from the Schwab account to the checking account was completed. She also informed the Board that she has been training G. Grayson in the Treasurer's duties as she is nearing the end of her term and she is not running for re-election. The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Financial Business:

Invoices were presented for authorization. S. Warner moved to approve the invoices presented for payment; seconded, B. Mazzoli. Approved.

The September 2021 budget to actual report was presented by M. Stromwall. She indicated that the income represents the year-to-date income, but will change this to reflect the monthly activity on future reports. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Friends of the Library Liaison – B. Mazzoli reported that the next FOL book sale will take place October 15 – 17th. The Friends are looking for volunteers. B. Mazzoli will email a link for the sign-up page to whomever is interested.

Old Business:

Library Director Search – A. Phillips informed the Board that progress has stalled in moving forward with Joanne Nichting, the chosen candidate. The town has not yet offered her the position with corresponding salary. Ms. Nichting is still interested. A. Phillips plans to go to Town Hall to try to move things along.

ARPA Grant – M. Stromwall reported that the grant funded items continue to come in, including the solar charging stations and touchless paper towel holders. The new outdoor benches have been ordered.

MS Windows Upgrade – M. Stromwall informed the Board that she was able to purchase the Windows update through Tech Soup saving the library several thousand dollars compared to the Whalley Computer quote.

New Business

Treasurer Position – With S. Renzoni's term expiring, she resigned from her position as Treasurer. B. Socha moved to appoint G. Grayson as Treasurer. Seconded by M. Gruber. G. Grayson abstained. Motion passed. G. Grayson and L. Gladysz will meet John Ruocco immediately before the next Board meeting to sign new paperwork for the Schwab account.

SES Book Fair – Somers Elementary School approached A. Phillips about the possibility of holding their semi-annual book fair in the Blake Room of the library. Typically held in the SES cafeteria, the book fair is a significant fundraiser for the PTO. Due to COVID, the SES cafeteria and gymnasium are currently in use for social distancing and unavailable for the book fair. The dates for set-up through the end of the sale are November 8th through the 11th during school day hours, with only students, teachers, and adult volunteers attending. S. Warner made a motion to allow SES to hold their book fair in the Blake Room. Seconded by D. Marti. Motion passed.

WiFi Network – M. Stromwall informed the Board that the library's Open Mesh WiFi network is out of date and will no longer be supported. She presented a quote from Bibliomation for \$1,157.25 to upgrade the network to an Ubiquiti WiFi system. S. Renzoni moved to approve the Bibliomation quote and move forward with the upgrade. B. Socha seconded. Motion passed.

Hoopla – M. Stromwall reported to the Board that with the current Hoopla subscription limits, many patrons are blocked from borrowing electronic content. During the height of COVID, the subscription was increased from \$400 to \$600 to allow patrons access to more materials without entering the library; however, it was subsequently dropped back down to \$400. Even though the library is open for browsing, Hoopla continues to be very popular. L. Gladysz made a motion to increase the monthly Hoopla limit to \$600. G. Grayson seconded. Motion passed.

Director's Report:

M. Stromwall elaborated on her written report, which outlined all the activities, maintenance, programs, and other activities during the month of September, including how many deliveries were made to homebound patrons. The report was accepted as presented.

Second Audience to Citizens: None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm. Next meeting will be November 1, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gladysz

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING