

Library Board of Directors
Somers Public Library
October 3, 2022

Members present: Lisa Gladysz, Gene Grayson, Mike Gruber, Jack Kertenis, Kathryn Lerz, Ann Levesque, Bob Socha, Shirley Warner
Absent (excused): Andy Phillips
Also present: Joanne Nichting, Library Director

Shirley Warner filled in for Chairperson Andy Phillips who could not be in attendance. She called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Minutes from the September 12, 2022 meeting were presented and reviewed. J. Kertenis moved to approve the minutes; seconded by A. Levesque. Abstentions: B. Socha. Approved.

First & Second Audience to Citizens: None

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was distributed by J. Nichting and presented by G. Grayson. The account balances and significant transactions were reviewed, including a \$5,000 transfer from the Schwab account to the checking account to cover expenses. G. Grayson also noted that the M&T Savings account (which was discussed last month) was closed and the funds transferred to the checking account. The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Financial Business:

The FY23 year to date financial report was presented by J. Nichting. She reviewed the expense line items, noting that the automated services line item looks high due to the timing of payments. She is also anticipating high heating bills this winter season. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Friends of the Library – As the FOL meeting conflicted with last month's Board meeting, J. Kertenis and J. Nichting were unable to attend. J. Nichting obtained an update from Marie Stromwall, who attended in her absence. The Friends approved several upcoming programs, several fundraising ideas, and are considering their own website and social media accounts to promote their activities. The Fall Book Sale will take place Oct 14th – 16th.

Bylaws Committee - S. Warner presented the revised bylaws for the Board's approval, noting the significant changes from the previous version. Discussion ensued regarding several of the items. B. Socha made a motion to approve the new bylaws as presented to become effective immediately, except for Article 5, Section 1 (new Board meeting dates), which will become effective in January 2023. Seconded by A. Levesque. Motion passed.

Building Committee - B. Socha reviewed all of the outstanding maintenance issues and plans to address them. He noted that a new accelerator was installed in the fire suppression system and the library has now passed the flow test. He also

reported that he is working with Fahrenheit to troubleshoot the repeated HVAC issues, noting that the malfunction appears to be with the outside unit. This is a positive development as it will not likely be a large dollar repair. He also indicated that he still plans to address the broken crash bar on the exit door and, once repaired, address the concerns with Sonitrol.

Old Business:

MBA Dismissal Concerns – The Board once again discussed the student release/parent pickup situation in the library parking lot but agreed to table the discussion until the November meeting when A. Phillips will be present, as he volunteered to observe the situation and report back with a recommended action plan.

New Business:

Banking Changes – G. Grayson reviewed all of the library's bank accounts, including a \$1,200 savings account that was discovered during the recent M&T Bank conversion. The account has no signatories listed; therefore, little can be done with the account until signatories are named. J. Kertenis moved to add Lisa Gladysz and Eugene Grayson to the M&T savings account. K. Lerz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Strategic Plan – G. Grayson reviewed the last strategic plan effort (in 2019), noting that it was created prior to the pandemic. G. Grayson will circulate the strategic plan document for the Board's review and potential future discussion. He will also review it with J. Nichting to determine if the objectives are still relevant or should be reconsidered in light of changes in people's behavior since the pandemic.

Director's Report:

J. Nichting presented her Director's Report to the Board, which included general library information, program attendance, and circulation and other statistics. The report was accepted as presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. Next meeting will be November 7, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Gladysz

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING