

Approved Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
Zoom or Board Room - 7:00 pm
January 25, 2023

Trustees Present: Jeremy Price (presiding), Anna Alemanni, Melissa Banks, Scott Bennewitz, Andrea Berkley, Dave Briggs, Ben Chan, Randy Herbertson, Celeste LaCroix, Jenna Markowitz, Jay Norris, Stefano Pacifico, Krishna Patel, Meena Pellerin, Barrie Rosen, Sheila Ward, Andrew Wilk, Pat Wieser, Peter Zakowich

Trustees Absent: Rob Haroun

Guests: Dick Lowenstein, Kristin Mott

Jeremy Price called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

President's Report: J. Price

Jeremy reported that the library has received emails and suggestions about next steps for the River of Names, the tile wall. [SEP] We are speaking with a few parties that have expressed interest in taking ownership. Each interested party has asked to remain confidential at this time. As a reminder, the board's statement published on December 15, 2022 remains the same. [SEP] As soon as we have an update, we will provide it.

Finance Committee: S. Bennewitz & B. Hammer

Bill and Scott gave an in-depth review and explanations for how the FY23/24 budget was arrived at and the driving forces behind the metrics. Bill thanked Scott for his time and expertise in pulling the budget together. Thanks also to Pat Wieser, Ben Chan, Anna Alemanni and Peter Zakowich for their valuable contributions. He also thanked Wafaa Naggar and staff members Melnie Myers, Agata Slattery & EJ Crawford for their input. A special thanks to Julie Bonington for the design. Discussion and questions followed the presentation.

Scott then made a motion to adopt the FY23/24 Budget for presentation to the Town totaling \$6,737,711 with a Library contribution of \$1,429,284 and the Town's contribution of \$5,308,427. Randy Herbertson seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Treasurer's Report: P. Zakowich

Peter reported that the Forecast has not changed much from last month.

Total YTD revenues were ahead of budget and total YTD expenses were also slightly over budget resulting in a surplus of approximately \$43k.

Cafe and retail revenues are above budgeted projections due to a strong holiday season.

Gov/Nom Committee: S. Ward

Sheila reported that the committee is currently working on revising the Board Confidentiality Agreement and will share at next month's Board meeting.

Other policies will be reviewed as well as the Timeline for New Trustees.

She encouraged everyone to begin thinking about new trustees and to share any recommendations with her or Bill.

Development Committee: A. Berkley

Krishna reported that the Annual Appeal has currently surpassed the goal but that final numbers won't be available until the February meeting.

She followed up sharing upcoming events at the Library, including the Malloy Lecture, Verso Fest weekend & Booked, and encouraged all Board members to attend one or more event. She also noted that February 23 is Fairfield County Giving Day and asked everyone to keep an eye out for the promotion.

Executive Director Report: B. Hamer

Bill reviewed his ED report previously distributed. He also highlighted upcoming events, and shared links to prior events in the event members were unable to attend.

New Business

None

Other Business

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Jeremy entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm. Andrew Wilk made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Melissa Banks. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by,

Barrie Rosen
Secretary