

Library Board Meeting - January 9, 2018

Members Present: Library Director Christina Becker; Board Members Jen Baker-Porazinski, Monica Ravreby, Bob Odess, Sue Mitchell, Clem Crowe, Sue Sawyer, Mary Laedlein, Ken Gottry

SM made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. JBP seconded. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

BO shared report. There were no unexpected expenses.

Old Business:

Housekeeping continues to be done by library staff which is working well.

New Business

SS welcomed the new board members ML and KG. Cambridge Public Library By-laws were handed out, policy books discussed.

CB will place the "Oaths of Office" inside the folder with the library bills to be signed by board members at their convenience.

Library Director Report:

Unfortunately we were not selected for the TAG grant (Technical Assistance Grant).

Cambridge in collaboration with Schuylerville and Greenwich library directors submitted for the seed grant from SALS for the adult literacy tutor (to be shared with Bancroft, Easton and Argyle libraries). The tutor would work 10 hours a week traveling between libraries with supplies for each library including a literacy station. The preference would be for a bilingual tutor and if not available will try and hire a tutor for ESL patrons.

A new computer was purchased to replace the broken one.

Mike Russet ran a program November 9 at 7 on the battle between the 143rd regiment and the 20th CT regiment over monument placement at Gettysburg.

The Front Porch Forum meeting took place at the library on November 17th at 6:30 PM. There are currently about 200 members.

Story hour continues to be a success. The holiday celebration for story hour was also well attended.

Ornament making occurred on December 9th for the Memorial Tree.

Lego club is running every Saturday into May and has been well-attended.

Mahjong club continues to take place 1-4 on Thursdays.

Knitters and quilters are working together on a project to make poppies for the WWI memorial.

CB is still considering a game night for the future.

CB has received over 100 surveys and is working on a spreadsheet to formulate the long-term plan. There have been interesting suggestions such as having a standing computer area. CB hopes to have a rough draft by the next meeting.

Cambridge was 1 of 6 NY libraries selected for Community Change. CB is partnered with Carmen Bogle. Group discussions ("Aspiration Exercises") are ongoing to determine what is missing from the community. CB meets with the White Creek town board tonight, the Lyon's club on the 17th, the Cambridge Village Board on the 18th, and the Jackson Board on 2/7. She will give a brief description of the program and then ask for input regarding ideas and visions for the community and also what changes might make it better. Issues that are recurrent include the digital divide and the economy. On 1/31 at 7 PM there will be an open meeting at the Cambridge Library for an Aspiration Exercise.

On 2/7 at noon there will be a free Lunch at the Library by the Office of the Aging including a dietician. The Friends are sponsoring this.

CB will be meeting with Howard Romack to set up science programs. He would like to do an Adult's Only full day program with a falconer, Sue Van Hook to discuss mushrooms, nets for collecting specimens.

JBP moved to override tax levy limit by resolution:

Whereas, the adoption of the 2018 budget for the Cambridge Public Library may require a tax levy that exceeds the tax cap imposed by state law as outlined in General Municipal Law Section 3-c adopted in 2011; and

Whereas, General Municipal Law Section 3-c expressly permits the library board to override the tax levy limit by a resolution approved by a vote of sixty percent of qualified board members, now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Cambridge Public Library voted and approved to exceed the tax levy limit for 2018 by at least the sixty percent of the board of trustees as required by state law on October 20, 2015.

SS seconded. All were in favor.

CB reviewed the budget proposal for the fiscal year 2017-2018. The Village generally gives a 2% raise to employees each year. Most contractual expenses are expected to be the same with the exception of an increase in books, periodicals and audio-visuals by \$500 and a decrease in exterior maintenance \$200. BO made a motion that the board approve the budget, CC seconded, all were in favor.

MR suggested we consider doing a "Story Slam" with other local libraries. CM will discuss with other librarians.

CB has been trying to meet with Tom Duffy regarding creating a Maker's Space in Varak Park and hope to get together soon to discuss options.

The next meeting of the Library Board will be Tuesday, February 13th at 4:15.