

## VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

March 19, 2019

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on March 19, 2019 in the Connie Sacco Room of the Main Library by President Ted Brown. Present were Gert Beckwith, Michelle Bernardi, Ted Brown, Patricia Donnelly, Joseph Fortino, John Galvin, Charles Gunning, Curtis Hodgkins, Mary Malenda, Alan Olenick and Susan Walker, Director Colleen Bailie and Assistant Director Catherine Bushman. Absent were William Heffernan, and William Lang.. Also present were staff members Taylor LaBarbera, Christine Maisano and Maria Zervos.

Minutes of February 19, 2019 meeting were approved with minor corrections (typos) by motion of M. Bernardi, second by A. Olenick, and carried.

**Director's Report:** C. Bailie: Staff: Cleaning service American Total Services comes 3 times weekly to Main and once weekly to OM. One part timer will be leaving. Her hours will be absorbed by others. Utilities: looking at alternative. We have received positive reactions from our appeal and received \$3,000 to date. Scholarships: Connie Sacco, Pam Gardner, Pauline Smith and Jean Poli \$500 each with a May 4 deadline for the application to be received. We have enough funding for 30 kids for Summer Read which will have a family lunch - not dinner. Kym will have a drag queen story hour in June. Kym has a connection with Long Wharf Theatre and they are working on a collaborative program. Tree branch fell in OM driveway. Security issues involving homeless patrons and bored kids. UNH book club needs book and LP is helping obtain the books for them. The cost of a space assessment to look at our spaces will cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

**Assistant Director's Report** C. Bushman attended Cops and Kids evening at WH Police Department. She is working on scheduling. WH Community House has some left over items which we can look over to see if libraries can use any of them.

### **Staff Reports:**

Taylor LaBarbera: New program: Crazy coupon chick - how to save money. Author talk The Village (Italians in Wooster Square) and auction professional to show patrons what things they own are worth.

Christine Maisano: Finances were better in February than January. They are looking at alternative carriers for electricity. UI will give us a free energy update in April. She looked into insurance quotes and one is \$5,000 higher than what we currently pay. Appeal has brought in \$3,000 and fall fund raiser brought in \$1,810.

Maria Zervos: Friday closing upset some patrons but she explained the reasoning. Circulation is improving. Programs: Blind date with book program went well. Healthy eating program, take your child to library and puzzle tournament with Kym (Graham Room) is in process. Two story times were held with Pagels Schol, a Cub Scout group

took a tour of library (working on a badge). Tree near driveway (part of it fell during snow/windstorm) may have to be removed.

**Treasurer's report:** C. Gunning, We are in trouble, reduction in part time hours may help and we will no longer have medical insurance for custodian. Director hopes to be \$40,000 over budget by June. J. Galvin has looked at present charter and thinks City could be in violation of the charter if they do not sufficiently fund the library and its subsidiaries. Motion to accept Treasurer's report made by A. Olenick, seconded by C. Hodgkins, and carried.

**Friends of Library:** P. Donnelly: FOCL statewide fundraising meeting is March 23rd. The Friends sponsored a hole for mini golf. Staff/volunteer lunch is April 16th. April 27th mini book sale will have only fiction and children's books.

**Committees:**

None

**Old Business:**

Mini Golf Fundraiser Update: we have two title sponsors and 9 holes. Volunteers will set up the holes. Teen help will be available. There will be a "behind the scenes night" Friday from 6:30-8:30. Attendees can tour the library

Bookmobile shelving: Director does not yet have full quote. She believes it will cost under \$1,000 to purchase and install the shelving.

**New Business.**

None

Board went into Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. and came out at 8:00 p.m. .

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019.**