

Kennett Library Board Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2017 Board of Trustees

- Karen Ammon
 Gail Bowden
 Chris Britt
 Jerry Brown
 Margaret Egli
 Jim DiLuzio
 Chris Larsen
 Bill McLachlan
 Brenda Mercomes
 Carolyn Mohr
 Barbara Necarsulmer
 Loren Pearson
 Brad Peiper
 Thomas Swett
 Barry Tomasetti
 Jeff Yetter

13 present (16 Trustees)-Quorum achieved

Guests: Director Megan Walters, Joseph Riper, Filomena Elliot, and John Cacciola

Agenda items
Opening of Meeting
Tom Swett, President, opened the meeting at 4:59 p.m. There were no public comments.
Approval of May Minutes
A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jeff, seconded by Brad and unanimously approved with no corrections.
Introduction of New Board Member
Tom asked the board to extend a warm welcome to new board member, Barbara Necarsulmer, an appointee of Pennsbury Township.
Presentation by John Cacciola of Aegis Property Group
The library Organizational Representative for Aegis Property Group, John Cacciola, provided a 10-minute summary to the board on how his company will assist the Library in the new building project.
Finance Committee Investment Selection of Blue Rock
<p>Chris Britt summarized the rationale and process of the finance committee's unanimous selection of Blue Rock over Bryn Mawr Trust. There were three primary reasons for Blue Rock. Blue Rock specializes in institutional asset management vs. Bryn Mawr who specializes in high net worth individuals. Blue Rock offered a significantly lower cost model and was amenable to using low cost options (proposed Vanguard ETF Models). Blue Rock management style is more collaborative.</p> <p>Our outdated Investment Policy will be replaced by a new policy statement crafted by Blue Rock which incorporates both fiduciary protection and oversight.</p> <p>Brad made a motion to approve the selection of Blue Rock. The motion was seconded by Bill and passed by the board</p>
Update on Negotiations with Borough

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Agenda items
<p>Bill summarized recent negotiations with the Borough. On June 20th, the Board of the Library decided to disengage from a joint building project with Kennett Borough. On Monday, July 3rd Tom Swett read a statement at the Borough Council Meeting announcing our intent to go it alone and asking them to sell us the Weinstein lot for a fair and generous price. It seems unlikely that they will consider the \$1 lease, which had previously been offered. The Borough's Finance Committee is still waiting for the appraisal, which should be done by July 26th. Brad asked about how best to leverage a good price. Jeff mentioned that historically the Borough wanted a price of \$469K for this lot. Bill added that signals have been mixed and we are not in a good negotiating position.</p>
Director's Report
<p>Tom is forgoing the President's report and requested that Megan report at 5:49. She recently hired a new part time employee, Laura DiNovis, to work nights and weekends. New Garden Township police have selected Filomena Elliott as a Community Partner to work with a new Department of Justice sponsored Police Officer. The Library is expanding collaboration and outreach to the Garage, Anson Nixon Park, and other community organizations.</p> <p>Maker Camp went well. Brad suggested this success should be highlighted in a newsletter.</p>
ALP Report
<p>Brad gave us a funding update. The ALP has received over \$2,000 in donations during the month. The committee will also receive an additional \$5,000 from the proceeds of the Home & Garden Tour. Committee members are focusing on obtaining sponsors i.e. Walmart, Starbucks and other businesses. Committee is also pursuing better collaboration and cooperation with La Comunidad Hispana.</p> <p>Filomena is exploring the feasibility of assisting Chester County Family Literacy, whose funding was denied. She is researching the costs to see if this presents an opportunity for our ALP.</p> <p>The committee has also been developing ideas to improve attrition. Attendance drops off between December and January. They are considering switching from trimester programs vs. semester.</p>
Finance Report
<p>Bill announced that the Library has received \$216K in municipal donations. June financials had been emailed to all board members prior to the meeting.</p>
Board Development
<p>Karen formally welcomed new board member, Barbara Necarsulmer, to the board. She also commented on the success of the Video Game program. She was impressed by the attendance of 56 kids on a Saturday.</p>
Adjournment
<p>The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. by Tom Swett, who reminded us that we are building on more success.</p>

The next board meeting will be held Tuesday, August 15th at the Episcopal Church of the Advent.



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Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Egli, Secretary