

Kennett Library Board Meeting Minutes

AUGUST 20, 2019 Board of Trustees

13 present (17 Trustees)-Quorum achieved
Townsend ⊠ Jeff Yetter
Necarsulmer ⊠ Loren Pearson ⊠ Brad Peiper ⊠David Sleasman ⊠ Thomas Swett ⊠ Collis
⊠ Victoria Gilrane □ Michael Guttman □ Chris Larsen ⊠ Brenda Mercomes ⊠ Barbara
□ Karen Ammon ⊠ Barbara Bolton ⊠ Gail Bowden □ Chris Britt ⊠ Margaret Egli ⊠Jim DiLuz

Guests: Megan Walters

Agenda items

OPENING OF MEETING/PUBLIC COMMENTS

At 5:00 p.m. Tom Swett called the meeting to order. Tom asked for approval of the July Board meeting minutes. Jeff Yetter made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Brenda Mercomes and passed unanimously.

MOTION TO CONFIRM WILL MAJARIAN AS A MEMBER AT LARGE

Tom announced that there will be four motions before the Board. Jeff made the first motion which was to confirm NBC committee member, Will Majarian, as a Member at Large. The motion was seconded by Brenda Mercomes. This motion was passed unanimously.

MOTION: VOTE TO PAY BALANCE DUE ON WEINSTEIN LOT

Vice President Jeff Yetter made a motion to pay the balance of \$141,000 due on the Weinstein Lot. This payment requires that we give the Borough sixty days' notice. Previously we had made a payment of \$245,000. Jeff added that we will not be able to start work on the Sinton property until we have paid in full for this property. Additionally, this payment fulfills a RACP grant requirement. Brad seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. After this successful vote, Jeff reminded the Trustees that the aggregate price of all the properties is \$860K.

MOTION TO TERMINATE REAL ESTATE PROJECT X

Brad Peiper, Chair of the NBC committee, made a motion to formally terminate real estate Project X so that we can move with alacrity on our Plan of Record. Termination would also involve payment of a \$29.3K architectural design fee due to Bernardon. Tori Gilrane, Treasurer, seconded the motion and it passed. Collis congratulated Brad on his stewardship and handling of this project. Collis added that it is time to refocus our efforts on the Plan of Record.

MOTION TO DEMOLISH 124 S. WILLOW STREET PROPERTY

Jeff made a motion to demolish the property contiguous to the Weinstein lot that we own located at 124 S. Willow St. Jeff pointed out that presently this property cannot be insured because of its poor condition. Jeff also mentioned that he has identified someone who will donate the cost of demolition. Margaret seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ALP/SAC

Brad announced that funding for ALP is on track for the year at \$60K in commitments, which includes a \$3,960 grant from CCRES . Brad was happy to report that the Better Than Bacon Fundraiser raised \$1000 for the ALP program. Additionally, there is a repeat fundraiser at the Market at Liberty Place on Wednesday, September 4th. ALP will benefit from 15% of the restaurant receipts from 5 until 8 p.m. Please support this event.

Fall evening classes for ALP will begin at Kennett High on August 27th. Day classes will start September 9th. ALP will host the 2nd Annual Operation Warm event at the Library on November 9th.

Brad informed us that the expected allocation from CCLS/SAC for 2020 should be \$184,502. Last year we received \$175,922. The increase in allocation is driven by an increase in State funding. We need to amplify and continue our lobbying efforts to offset the decrease in State Funding that occurred in 2009.



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Finally Brad reminded us that CCLS will host the Annual Legislative Breakfast at the Exton Library on September 20^{th} .

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Megan informed us that she had been interviewed by the Southern Chester County Chamber of Commerce. A collaborative program, Maker Camp, which was held at Upland Country Day was very successful. The older students made ukuleles, while the younger attendees made sumo robots.

Megan is relieved summer is over, however is happy about the high attendance at our programs - anywhere from 75 to 80 children each time.

The "Treasure Island" story hour with Victoria Wyeth was a big hit. Victoria has promised another story time on October 26th.

Regarding the Fall Fundraiser, Megan reminded the Trustees that Veronica has given everyone a packet with sponsorship forms at the last Board meeting. The highest level of sponsorship this year is \$5,000.

Please send names of people to be invited to the dinner to Megan. This year we are using One Cause to expedite the silent auction. Veronica is also promoting the idea of themed auction item baskets.

Jeff credited Veronica with receiving a \$4,500 sponsorship from Glen Meade Trust plus several other sponsorships and in-kind donations.

Megan reported that the dinner at the Stone Barn does not include dessert. She asked for Board suggestions. Jim DiLuzio recommended checking with Dr. Barry Tomasetti regarding having the Kennett Square School District make our desserts.

Megan advised us that she will not be present at the September 17th Board meeting. She reminded the Trustees that Joe Sherwood would be attending this Board Meeting

FINANCE

Tori reported that all financials have been submitted to CCLS for review. She is hoping that by the next Board meeting that everything is resolved. \$1.9 Million in our account needs to be set aside for the New Building Fund and transferred to Vanguard.

Tom thanked Tori and Megan for their diligence.

HOME AND GARDEN

Tom recognized and thanked Gail Bowden, Home and Garden Chair, for the collective efforts of her committee. Gail commented that although there will not be a Tour in 2020, there will be a reorganization of the committee which will identify less labor-intensive fundraising projects.

NBC

Brad stated that although Project X is concluded there are two critical things that need to be accomplished. The first is we need 70% commitment on funding before we move ahead. Secondly, once we have the financial commitment we will need to come back to the Board to receive approval to move ahead. Once we move ahead we will start incurring expenses. Brad mentioned that some donations may be spread over a three-year period. Brad thanked Jeff for his work on consolidating the three lots that the Library has purchased. New Board Member, Will Majarian, will take the lead on zoning issues. Brad will continue to work with the Architects. Brad is working on developing a timeline for our project. Brad noted that we also need to have a plan for the mural on the Hall Building.

Finally Brad stated that we need CCLS approval to move ahead with the Library Project.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN /NEW LIBRARY PLEDGE FORM



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Collis Townsend, Capital Campaign Chair, shared good news about the campaign. He is impressed by the work that has been done. He passed out a Bubble Chart showing the components i.e. Municipalities, Fairmount, Government Grants, Fairmount Ventures, Library Staff and Volunteers, Collateral Materials, and Media and how they interconnect. Collis commented that the Community is ready. He wants to add an endowment component to our outreach. He revealed that the Capital Campaign committee is currently looking to employ a part time development staff person. He admitted that due to the demands that we might need a full-time employee. The primary responsibility of this staff person would be management of the donation database.

Collis added that the organization of a Friends Group for the Library could be a big help in advancing our cause. He reminded Township appointees that they should attend their respective Township meetings. Collis also noted that the top 200 contributors will fund the Library.

Collis next addressed collateral materials – we need brochures when we solicit donors and Capital Campaign Cabinet prospects.

Lastly Collis gave all Trustees a New Library Pledge Form. He emphasized that it is important for the Board to make a meaningful and significant commitment. He is requesting these completed forms back by the September Board meeting.

PERSONNEL

Brenda informed us that the Personnel Committee will be meeting to interview candidates for the development position previously mentioned by Collis. Involved with the hiring will be several logistic issues which will need to be resolved – equipment plus office space.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jeff was happy to report that the 2018 Annual Appeal had yielded over \$110K. Jeff also reported that he has been in contact with the eight municipalities. He has scheduled a meeting with Steve Alleband of New Garden Township. New Garden Township Appointee Jim DiLuzio recommended that we ask for between \$1 – 3 Million for our New Library Project. Jim mentioned that the Township will receive approximately \$28 Million from the sale of the sewer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at the Unionville Chadds Ford School District Office Board Room located on 740 Unionville Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret R. Egli Secretary