

Philmont Public Library  
101 Main Street  
Philmont, NY 12565

## **February 3, 2021**

The regular January meeting of the Philmont Public Library Board of Trustees, held via Zoom teleconference (meeting ID #982 6422 5933, recorded) was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Faith Benson. Also present were Chief Financial Officer Dave Bolevice, Secretary Mindy Gardner, Director Tobi Farley, Member Nat Drake, and Village Liaison Representative Debra Gitterman. Vice President Barbara Sagal was absent.

Visitors in Attendance: None

Public Comment: None

Minutes: A **MOTION** to accept the January 2021 minutes was made by Drake, seconded by Gardner, and unanimously approved.

Correspondence (Gardner): None

President's Report (Benson):

Benson reported that Mr. Rich Nesbitt, the Village's insurance agent at Johnny Walker Insurance Co., has finally responded to one of her emails but failed to answer the essential questions. She suggested that as we are under the Village insurance policies and a signed waiver is used by the Village in lieu of personal liability insurance policies, that we put this issue to rest and cease trying to contact Mr. Nesbitt. All agreed.

Benson gave Lauren Schneider of Free Fare Philmont economic data used in our construction grant to justify a reduced match. Schneider used these data in her report to the Village, and reported to Benson that Mayor Speed verbally commended and supported Free Fare's efforts.

Financial Report (Bolevice):

Bolevice reported that he is having trouble forwarding attachments in Gmail. Gardner will send how-to screenshots to Bolevice. Tobi will send the financial reports after the meeting.

Village Liaison Report (Gitterman):

Gitterman has volunteered to redo the village website in WordPress. Tobi will join the village meeting to discuss the website.

Phil Gellert, landlord, has agreed to let Free Fare use space at 104 Main street. They will pay utilities. The space will be staffed by volunteers, and be open part time.

Library Director's Report (Farley):

1. The library had pipes freeze in 7 places in the exterior wall adjacent to the alley. Farley may submit an insurance claim. Dave explained that a long-term fix would be to replace the water in the boiler's pump circuit with antifreeze (20 gallons @ \$16/gallon).

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2. We will be promoting a history series of four Zoom talks with the FDR Presidential Library and Museum: FDR and the Hudson Valley, The Four Freedoms, Rural Electrification, and Federal One: Saving the Arts.
3. The Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) needs to write a grant narrative and is asking for input from Board Members and Directors.
4. The American Library Association (ALA) grant for facilitating conversations in the community is \$3000 and includes facilitator training. It is meant to be used for outreach into the community like a book club, our 3-year plan, paying for our Zoom account, or other programs. Farley planning to apply.
5. We remain open for curbside pickup only.

All present participated in a general discussion about the new library website.

Policy Committee Report:

None

Art Committee Report (Drake):

Drake reported that the needed equipment to hang the show has been decided upon and purchased. We will store it, and re-use it as needed in the future.

The date for the show is pending, as we are waiting for the equipment to come. The first or second weekend in March is our tentative schedule.

Drake agreed to be the “interviewer”.

Building Committee Report:

Gardner reported that Casey has requested a couple of changes to the construction grant. Gardner will make the changes.

There was general discussion about continuing the grant process for renovation funds vs. raising a bond. A **MOTION** to table the discussion was made by Farley, seconded by Gardner and unanimously approved. Farley will send a meeting invitation to the building committee.

Old Business:

Farley presented the budget for 2021-2022.

The Village has asked all departments to make a 10% cut (\$1,600) from what they give us. We would have to fundraise to fill that gap, but we are already fundraising for the building, and that’s the same donor pool.

Bolevic made a **MOTION** to approve the 2021-2022 budget, which was seconded by Drake, and unanimously approved.

A **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Benson, seconded by Drake, and unanimously approved at 8:47 PM.

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The next Library Board meeting will be held on March 3, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

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**ACTION LIST**

**Gardner** - Make final changes to the construction grant; Create a Gmail How-to for Bolevice

**Farley** - Send the Board the latest Financial Statements