

Philmont Public Library
101 Main Street
Philmont, NY 12565

March 3, 2021

The regular March meeting of the Philmont Public Library Board of Trustees, held via Zoom teleconference (meeting ID #982 6422 5933, recorded) was called to order at 7:09 PM by President Faith Benson. Also present were Vice President Barbara Sagal, Chief Financial Officer Dave Bolevice, Secretary Mindy Gardner, Director Tobi Farley, Member Nat Drake, and Village Liaison Representative Debra Gitterman.

Visitors in Attendance: None

Public Comment: None

Minutes: A **MOTION** to accept the February 2021 minutes with corrections was made by Bolevice, seconded by Drake, and unanimously approved.

Correspondence (Gardner): Gardner reported the mailing of three handwritten thank you cards to patron donors. In an effort to inform the community about the Library's innovative Learning Kit initiative, Gardner interviewed Farley and wrote a press release based on the conversation. The press release will be sent to a list of media contacts that the Claverack Library Director is providing.

President's Report (Benson):

Benson reported that she spoke to:

- Lauren Schneider about combining volunteers from the Library and Free Fare to clean out the shed behind the Library for the Tool Library. A list of tools generally available might be posted in the Free Store with directions for borrowing tools from the Library.
- Sally Baker about the Library's collaboration with PBInc., the Co-op, and the Sylvia Center for the "Kids Grow & Cook" program funded by the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, which Farley is organizing.
- Elizabeth Angello about the co-op's potentially collaborating on a future writing project with the library.

Benson stated that although the Board agreed at the last meeting to cease trying to contact the Village's insurance agent, she would like written confirmation from the village lawyer that the processes in place (signed waiver and driver license review) are suitable. After discussion, all trustees agreed that this request would be appropriate.

Financial Report (Bolevice):

Bolevice reported that he is having trouble separating spreadsheets, and still can't forward attachments. Gardner offered to come look at his Gmail account to diagnose the issue.

Farley shared the Budget vs Actual numbers. A question was asked about what monies fall under the Fines/Replacements line items, which Farley answered.

Village Liaison Report (Gitterman):

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A Police reform hearing and village board meeting are this Monday, March 8th. The public can submit questions for the police reform hearing at the county website.

The Federal Covid relief bill has appropriations for local governments, and Philmont will get a percentage of the funds earmarked for Claverack.

In an effort to improve communication from the Village Board to Village residents, Gitterman has received approval to create a new Wordpress website for the village. Once created, the Board will decide whether to use it. Gitterman is asking for input on content, photos, etc. The Board discussed the possibility of the village taking ownership of the Philmont.org domain name, which is currently registered under, and the annual fees paid by, the Philmont Library.

Bolevic asked about the Village sewer and water project. Gitterman reported that the issue centers around filtration and disinfection, and as the cost of UV technology was too expensive, the Village is going with the chlorine option. The Village will not need to issue a bond, as there is a \$100,000 grant available for the upgrade.

Library Director's Report (Farley):

1. Hudson River Bank & Trust is giving us \$10,000.
2. The annual funding contribution from the county has been received.

Policy Committee Report:

None

Art Committee Report (Drake):

Drake reported that they have finalized and locked in the photo show opening as Saturday, March 13th. The photo club will hang the show the Wednesday before. The show will be put on the library's Instagram page and on the website as an embedded video, or as a link to Instagram.

Tobi and Nat to meet at 11:00 tomorrow the 4th to discuss promotional needs.

Building Committee Report:

Bolevic has reached out to Chris Hoppe for guidance on reopening safely.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Bolevic made a **MOTION** to approve the 2020 Annual Report to NY State, which was seconded by Sagal, and unanimously approved.

A **MOTION** to adjourn was made by Bolevic, seconded by Benson, and unanimously approved at 8:15 PM.

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

ACTION LIST

Benson - Send letter to Robert Fitzsimmons, the Village Attorney

Gardner - Send the press release to the media

Farley and Drake - Meet to plan Photo Show promotion

Bolevic - Follow up with Chris Hoppe

Gardner and Bolevic - Fix Gmail issues