

Philmont Public Library
101 Main Street
Philmont, NY 12565

October 4, 2023

The regular October meeting of the Philmont Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:06 PM by President Peter Johnson. Also present were Vice President Faith Benson, Chief Financial Officer Dave Bolevice, Secretary Mindy Gardner, Member Suzi Miranda, Director Tobi Farley, and Village Liaison Jason Detzel. Member Michael Wedd and Member Barry Marshall were absent.

No regular September meeting was held.

Visitors in Attendance: None

Public Comment: None

Approval of Agenda: A **MOTION** to adopt the meeting agenda was made by Benson, seconded by Gardner and unanimously approved.

Previous Action List

- **Farley:** Letter to Town of Ghent for additional increase in financial support to be written. Details of meeting with village accountant to be determined. All else complete.
- **Gardner:** All complete, although letter to Sally Rappaport may need to be rewritten. Farley did not receive it.
- **Miranda:** All complete.
- **Benson:** All complete. Rain Whittaker unable to participate in the Friends of Philmont Public Library at this time. Jason Kenny has agreed to be on our Advisory Council.

Minutes: A **MOTION** to accept the August 2023 minutes with no change was made by Bolevice, seconded by Benson, and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Library Director's Report (Farley):

Written report available on Philmont Library Website. Discussions Included:

- The August and September circulation numbers have a typo. Should be .6% of total circulation, not 6%.
- Attended a Vulnerability Assessment workshop at Columbia-Greene Community College. The Cornell Cooperative Extension created a public Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience survey for residents of Columbia and Green counties.
- There is a new online catalog coming to the Mid-Hudson libraries called VEGA. It will be introduced to the public in November.

President's Report (Johnson):

Written report available on Philmont Library Website. Discussions Included:

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- Claverack is planning for a new Town Hall and Court
- The Tripp Center timeline for the building's availability is 3-4 years
- Johnson learned there is a Columbia County housing committee funded with federal money. When discussing as part of Library outreach programs, use "Housing that's affordable" rather than "affordable housing".

Financial Report (Bolevice):

Budget-vs-Actual report for August 2023 presented.

Correspondence (Gardner):

Thank you notes sent to:

- Sally Rappaport
- Children's Foundation

Arts Advisory Committee Report (Miranda):

Written report available on Philmont Library Website

The Arts Advisory Committee will meet the second Friday of the month at 2 PM.

The Board discussed the chain link/snow fence weaving project scheduled for the spring with Free Columbia.

Village Liaison Report (Detzel):

None

Policy Report (Benson):

The Board discussed Benson's book banning research. Benson suggested using lack of critical reviews or misinformation in the content as criteria for refusing books or materials for inclusion in the library catalog.

Old Business

The Board discussed the most recent Zoom call with Jim Clarke.

New Business

None

ACTION ITEMS

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- **Farley:** Set up in-person meeting with Village Accountant. Draft funding increase letter to Ghent. Look for boiler papers and thank you letter. Fix typo in circulation data.
 - **Wedd:** Add Barry Marshall to Slack
 - **Gardner:** None
 - **Miranda:** None
 - **Johnson:** None
 - **Bolevice:** None
 - **Benson:** Send Miranda the Policy section with the artist contract and liability waiver.
 - **Everyone:** Respond to Wedd's questionnaire. Submit ideas for fundraising. Complete Trustee training and NY state sexual harassment training.
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Bolevice made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 7:39 PM, seconded by Gardner, and unanimously approved.

The next Philmont Public Library Board meeting will be held November 1, 2023 at 6:00 PM.