

Western Allegheny Community Library

June 15, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Virtual Attendance: (This meeting is being held via ZOOM due to the COVID-19 Stay safe and social distance). Loretta Hennemuth, Terri Conosciuto, Amy McDonald, Patty Giura, Pam Perry, Erin Carlisle, Tim O'Sullivan, Bill Stout, Barb Piskorik

Call to Order: Board meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by President Terri Conosciuto

Motion to approve agenda: Tim first; Barb second. All were in favor. Motion carries

Motion to approve minutes from May meeting: Erin first, Bill second. All were in favor. Motion carries

Motion to approve May Financials: Bill, first; Erin second. All were in favor. Motion carries

Library Director's Report: Amy has formed a committee to help with creating a compensation plan via an ACLA cohort. The committee consists of Amy, Barb and Pam. We are working, as a group, with other libraries to create a compensation philosophy and strategy for future planning. The library is open for curbside services! Norene is doing a great job with her team to create new policies and procedures for these unchartered waters. Summer learning started June 1; all programs are being held virtually. A big win for our Youth Services department. They created virtual storytimes with the librarian in a costume, reading popular character stories, such as Elephant and Piggie. The Facebook reach for this program exceeded 168,000 people, with over 700 shares across the world. Kudos to our Youth Services department! The library is using Beanstack to track supper reading, Amy is suggesting we explore this new tracker. The state budget was signed for the first 5/12 of the year, maintaining our typical budget. In November, they will set funding for the remaining 7 months. We are expecting a loss. Per the request of RAD, LAC is proposing a new funding formula, placing greater emphasis on the underfunded libraries. With the new proposed formula, Western Allegheny Community Library will see a 7.71% decrease in funding over the 2020 year. This equates to a \$9,625.39 loss. Amy is suggesting a budget meeting in early August to identify where cuts can be made and plan for how best to compensate for the anticipated decrease in funding for 2021. In addition to the Jack Buncher Foundation, Clinton Lights has offered a match for Love Your Library Month. Amy is in the process of applying for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program through the commonwealth.

Committee News and Reports:

Building and Grounds: Bill made a motion to seek the board's support to move ahead with water drain remediation project of Drain #1. Tom Meyers Plumbing will give an estimate. Erin seconded motion. All were in favor. Motion carries. Meeting to be held virtually or in person on July 6 at 6pm.

Finance Committee: A UPS grant was received in the amount of \$10,000. Way to go! To date, \$15,000 has been fundraised so far.

Governance Committee: No report

Personnel Committee: Discussed the work needed on the compensation plan for our future.

Development and Fundraising: *Many fundraising items were listed in the Library Directors Report which is listed above.*

Old Business *No old business*

New Business: *Amy presented a proposed reopening plan now that Allegheny County has moved to “Green”. Barb made a motion to accept the proposal as Amy presented. Erin seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries. In addition, Amy shared with the Board that as part of the process for creating the reopening plan, she had reached out to Chief O’Donnell to inquire about how the community was responding to the Governor’s mask mandate. As a result of this conversation with Chief O’Donnell, various current topics were discussed in conversation, and several Board Members expressed interest in continuing the discussion about WACL’s stance regarding Diversity and Inclusion. It was requested that the Board revisit the topic at a later date to discuss more in depth how it should best move forward.*

Motion made to adjourn by Tim at 8:22pm. There will be no meeting in July. Committee meetings will be in August.