Minutes
Ardsley Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting,
Thursday, January 27, 2021
[ZOOM format.]

Attending,
Stephanie Bonney, President,
Matthew Gonzales, Peter Keil, Valerie S. Lalli,
Rosemarie Marcus, and Michael Wiskind.
Angela Groth, Library Director.
Nancy Kaboolian, Village Board Liaison.
Joseph Coffey, Village of Elmsford Liaison.
Absent, Lauren Hadi.

Call to Order, 7:34 P.M.

Meet and Greet: The Friends of the Library Executive Board: Lisa Pellegrino, President; Elizabeth Mueller, Secretary; and Gail Wainer, Treasurer, attended tonight’s meeting — the first time, after several organizational meetings prompted by the Board’s liaison to the Friends, Rosemarie Marcus. They articulated their energetic goals: connecting to the schools, offering a scholarship, fundraising, supporting Library programming, coverage in The Enterprise, and the creation of a website separate from the Library's. They also reported on the results of this year’s fundraising letter — about four percent of letters sent resulted in a contribution. [Later in tonight’s meeting, Angela reported on the Friends’ decision to end support for purchasing DVDs for the Library’s collection, our only funding source for these.]

Approval of Minutes of Monday, December 20, 2021. Two problems came up in the Treasurer’s Report, which was noted as:
From a Purchase Order dated Monday, December 16, 2021, sent from Theresa Del Grosso, Accounts Payable, Michael Wiskind motioned to pay forty-six bills totalling $18,808.73, as submitted on the abstract prepared in the Village Treasurer’s office; Rosemarie Marcus seconded, and this motion also carried unanimously. [In a revision received Wednesday, December 22nd, Village Treasurer Leslie Tillotson added three new December bills, $1,289.75, still to be approved.]
The email that reported $18,808.73 and forty-six bills is no longer on the WLS website. It was replaced by a revised figure of $18,708.73 for forty-five bills, from an email sent December 16th from Theresa Del Grosso, Accounts Payable.
And, in another revised email, from Angela, forwarding a list of bills from Village Treasurer Leslie Tillotson dated December 23rd, three additions were added:
AMX Cooling and Heating, $349.00,
Holiday Signs LLC, $43.75, and
LJR Services, Inc., $897.00.

Adding the total of these three, $1,289.75, to the revised $18,708.73, the corrected amount of $19,998.48, and forty-eight bills, became the new total for December. Michael Wiskind motioned that this amount be approved; seconded by Rosemarie Marcus, and approved unanimously, as was, now, the approval of all the minutes for December.

[In an email that was not included in the December 20th meeting, Rosemarie Marcus took the activities of the reconstituted Friends a step forward: The annual fundraising letters were sent out in October and have collected, as of now, December 17th, $5,165. The Friends brought in a tray of cookies for the Library staff. Rosemarie asked Angela to set up a meeting between the librarians and the Friends executive committee, early January.]

_Treasurer’s Report._ From a Purchase Order dated Tuesday, January 22, 2022, sent from Theresa Del Grosso, Accounts Payable, Michael Wiskind motioned to pay forty-one bills totalling $33,443.18, as submitted on the abstract prepared in the Village Treasurer’s office; Rosemarie Marcus seconded, and this motion also carried unanimously.

_Director’s Report._

The circulation stats:

Total December circulation, 4,012 [November, 4,078; October, 4,651].

Inter-Library loans for December, 1781 [November, 1,701; October, 1,858].

Received, 1,099; Sent, 682. [1,102; 599; 1,172; 686].

Overdrive, 703 [826; 771].

Hoopla, 103 [103; 84].

Curbside pickup, 47 [40; 45].

People Count for December, 2,453 for twenty-three days open, for an average of one hundred seven a day [November, 2,684 for twenty-three days open, for an average of one hundred seventeen a day; October, 2,992; twenty-five; one hundred twenty per diem].

New Business, from an email Angela sent on January 20th.

Vlora Sinani, our new Saturday circ-desk clerk, is a working well, a genial and quick study of the front-desk procedures.

Also, we’ve received a check for $20,000., the grant that Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti awarded us for equipment, capital improvements, and programs – as anticipated in the May 20th, 2021, email from Joanne Sold, Chief of Staff of the Assembly. [The email is still on our WLS site.]

WLS has begun transferring our existing connections to newly-replaced cabling. Lightpath has changed our wireless routers, updating patron connectivity.

_Budget Proposals._ Angela sent four pages on January 21st; Stephanie, a better version of the details on January 27th. Reading over the better, despite some gaps to be filled in and errors (outside maintenance, for example) to be corrected, the Board unanimously approved Michael Wiskind’s motion and Matt Gonzales’ second, that the Director proceed with her imminent budget discussions with the Village Board.
Our Back Pages. 1989, Friends’s Director Rose Swan and Library Director Marcia Pfeffer asked Harold Shames, an avid patron, and Rita Norman, the Acquisitions Librarian, to choose fifty films on VHS for the Library’s new collection. They picked forty-seven films; to both, Pillow Talk, from 1959, the greatest of all time. A latecomer added the last three choices, a silent and two foreign-language movies, neither category in the first forty-seven. Most continued in robust use into the DVD era and following, ours one of the few in the WLS still carrying tapes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 P.M.

The next, on Zoom, Thursday, February 17, 2022, 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Keil,
February 16, 2022.

[Notes,
an Executive session, at 7 P.M., preceded tonight’s meeting, and our regular board meeting was recorded.]