

Adamstown Area Library Trustees Meeting Minutes March 9, 2022

In Attendance

Board: Jess McManimen, Cindy Mellinger, Hope Schmids, Curt Unruh, JJ Valerio, Anne Williams

Staff: Carolyn Reiste, Maribeth Donohue

Friends: Margaret Harting was not present but sent two items for consideration.

Meeting was held via Zoom and called to order at 6:30 PM by Anne Williams.

Secretary's Report was presented by Hope Schmids. **Motion to accept: Cindy Mellinger, Curt Unruh. Approved**

Treasurer's Report was presented by JJ Valerio. Finance Committee met on Monday. A few payments came in: PA, local, Adamstown Borough. Brad ran Jan and Feb P&L. gas and electric costs rose significantly in last 30 days. We will continue to monitor. **Motion to accept: Jess McManimen, Cindy Mellinger. Approved**

Friend's Member Margaret Harting's concerns as per Carolyn:

1. Board needs to remove items from community room as Friends prepare to use for book sales. Carolyn will inventory current contents of that room.
2. Requests leveling of rear parking spot nearest back entrance. Will problem-solve a temporary solution during potential construction, such as adding small gravel layer, perhaps involving Scouts.

Director's Report was presented by Carolyn Reiste. Friends donated \$500 for Library of Things, adding musical instruments. As of Monday, will remove the mask requirement for programs. **Motion to accept: Hope Schmids, Curt Unruh. Approved.**

New Business: None

Community Room update

Jess McManimen reported we will review for April vote and will consider application for use and need for outside organization's certificate of insurance.

Old Business: Adamstown Borough Community Room Proposal

Jess McManimen recused herself from the discussion. The library is dedicated to advocating for the Friends and values the history of support from Friends. We will advocate for them in any discussions of collocating with Borough and will be sure to get any promises or agreed upon plans in writing. Borough verbally committed to creating a space for Friends. Alex McManimen from Borough made a great effort to prepare information about their plans to discuss with us at this Board meeting. He provided 5 possible layouts for new Borough building for board's review. **Alex joined us via Zoom after Jess McManimen recused herself and left meeting.**

- Borough plans to sell existing building in June 2022
- They wish to subdivide and then purchase a parcel of library's property upon which they will build their new offices with community room, Friends' space and small administrative space for local police.

- Borough would operate from a trailer parked on the property during 12–18-month construction period.
- Friends will temporarily relocate to library community room during construction period.
- Carolyn and library staff see this as an overall positive plan as long as both entities approach it as a partnership and all library need are met.
- No attorney has been present during any of these preliminary discussions.

After discussion, a Motion was made: In the spirit of collaboration, to continue the conversation with Adamstown Borough about their possible colocation with library. **Motion to accept: Hope Schmids, Curt Unruh. Approved.**

Next step: A task force will meet tomorrow to review possible layouts and determine which serve the best interests of library and Friends.

3 Points for Board from Staff

1. PA Forward presented Gold Star
2. Library of things – musical instruments needed
3. Tiny art show was quite successful. Most of 48 kits came back. Laura’s initiative.

3 Points from Board to Staff

1. Pursuing colocation with borough in spirit of good faith and collaboration
2. Community room policy
3. Advocated for Friends

Motion to adjourn: Cindy Mellinger, JJ Valerio. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM

Next Regular Meeting: April 13, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by Hope Schmids, Secretary - AAL Board of Trustees

Save the Date! May 20, 4-8 PM Unruh Insurance Agency Cruise Night