

EAST PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

Present: M.Marcotte, Chair- P. Armstrong, C. LaRoux, E. Ingraham, D. Paiva, P. Silva

Excused: K.Dias

Staff: J.May, Acting Library Director

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 by Chair Ms.Marcotte.

The February minutes were reviewed and approved on motion from Mr. Paiva, seconded by Ms. Armstrong.

Friends Update: Mr. Paiva presented the report showing 139 volunteer hours in January by nine volunteers. The Spring Book Sale is planned for April 30 - May 1-3. There is some concern about bags; Ms. May suggested selling the \$1.00 Library bags. The Friends are sponsoring a performance at Barker Playhouse on May 14. Friends volunteers may attend for free while others may purchase \$ 20.00 tickets.

Finance Report: There is still no city budget. We had a few major expenses last month. The elevator door repair required a new sensor at \$7,400.00. The Children's Tree lights were obsolete; a new panel board was installed for \$1,000.00. All the outside lights at Fuller were out; new ones were replaced for \$184.00.

Hearing Loop Update: On Feb. 12, the inspection failed to meet the "standard". A second loop was installed; all testing passed, we have a certificate, and are in compliance with ADA.

Director's Report: Ms. May described the PLA Conference in Nashville where 8,500 librarians gathered. She talked about Stacy Abrams' keynote presentation and the PLA Conference theme of social justice, inclusion, equity, and diversity. She also discussed a workshop on "Attracting Millennials to the Board and Friends".

At the City department heads meeting the Corona Virus was discussed. Everyone has been told to only give information from the CDC or the Dept. of Health. The library will have supplies of wet wipes and will ask the patrons to assist by wiping down the computers they have used. There is an issue with toys in the Children's Room; most will be stored for this time.

There was some discussion about Kanopy, a video streaming service which makes available 17,000 films including many documentaries which can cost \$500 – \$600 to purchase. It is a pay per view system with a \$2.00/per view cost to the library. With expected growth there could be a \$4,800.00 annual expense and Ms. May has asked The Friends to assist with this program. We have received a \$9,400.00 grant for the Census Project. \$2400 of the grant will go to the Portuguese American Leadership Council or PALCUS to advertise in Portuguese newspapers. We have applied to the RI Foundation for funding of a new Community Farm and Garden Library Project. Two large dying pine trees have been removed from the side lawn.

A \$21,000.00 check from the ancient donation funds is in hand to be deposited to the Foundation account. We have also received a \$300.00 donation to purchase DVDs and a \$100 cash donation to be deposited into the Friends account.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm by motion of Mr. LaRoux seconded by Mr. Silva.