

EASTPROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Board of Trustees Meeting

November 3, 2021 4:30pm

Champlin Program Room, Weaver Library

Present: M. Marcotte, C. LaRoux, D. Paiva, E. Ingraham, P. Silva, P. Armstrong, K. Dias

Staff: J. May, Library Director, M. Bonds-Harmon, Head of Reference Services

M. Marcotte calls the meeting to order at 4:36pm.

The Trustees review the October minutes. K. Dias motions to approve the minutes with all in favor.

Friends' Update

The Friends obtained 92 pumpkins for the Pumpkin Stroll and donated \$170 for prizes.

The Friends has received a total of \$2,045 in memorial contributions for Lillian Chalmers.

The Friends donated books to the Senior Center, the Little Free Libraries project of EBCAP, Carl Sweeney's Hope & Faith Drive, and Riverside Sisters. More than 1,100 books were donated from June to October 2021.

The Friends held a safe and successful Fall Book Sale in October. Twenty-four Friends' members volunteered 137 hours. Total proceeds amounted to \$6,530, the highest amount ever.

Friends' membership year started October 1. Annual dues remain \$5 per person. To date, 272 people have joined the Friends. The goal this year is to reach 300 members.

Financial report

The new Library budget is increased by \$216K, largely due to ARPA revenue funding two new positions.

Old Business

Weaver Library Fire Sprinkler System: Delta Mechanical is on schedule with the fire sprinkler system update. A heat sensor on the old system malfunctioned setting off the alarm. A faulty valve has made the sprinkler system inoperable. (Smoke detectors and alarm still work.) The library can remain open on fire watch per the Fire Department until the new system is completed.

ARPA Mini-grant update: We have been awarded a \$7,200 grant for two Krayon Kiosks.

New Business

J. May handed out a printed overview of the East Providence Library Foundation. The Trustees will receive regular updates and a financial report, as a courtesy, after every annual meeting.

Staff Update

J. May has submitted two requisitions for the Assistant Director position and the Youth Services Assistant position. We hope to fill two more positions as well, a part time Circulation Aide and a part time assistant for Fuller.

A new part time Reference Librarian, James Olson, an East Providence resident, has been hired and begins work on November 8th. Our part time Instruction Librarian will be leaving us for a full time job on December 17th. We will be rehiring a Digital Services/Reference Librarian to replace him.

M. Marcotte would like to continue the discussion of eliminating all overdue fines. P. Armstrong would like more information about unreturned items including the length of time it takes for late materials to become billed. And, our total number/percentage of billed items.

Directors' reports

M. Bonds-Harmon's report

At the Riverside Branch, two indoor Storytimes per week and Take & Make craftkits have been added to the program offerings.

Fuller continues to see an increase in program attendance and more people dropping in throughout the month. A collaboration with the Kent Heights Neighborhood Association brought many new faces to Fuller for the Halloween parade.

The Children's Room at Weaver continues to offer at least 2 outdoor programs weekly and 2 weekly indoor Storytimes begin this month. A monthly homeschool program also begins this month. Afternoons are busy in the Children's Room with families utilizing the Reading Buddies service and Read to a Dog opportunities. The annual Pumpkin Stroll brought hundreds of people to the Weaver Lawn along with the Mayor and President of the City Council.

Weaver is hosting a high school intern from The MET High School. She'll be here Fridays throughout the school year.

J. May's report

The Eagle Scout's fence project around our Copper Beech tree will happen in Spring 2022.

J. May will appear with Valerie Perry on the Radio Show 'Service Matters' on 790AM. It will air live and be made into a podcast as well.

RIPBS will be recording an author interview at the Weaver Library in November.

M. Marcotte makes a motion to adjourn at 5:44pm. K. Dias seconds with all in favor.