

Unapproved

**Wethersfield Library Board
Minutes of March 28, 2017**

Members present: Joe Aguiar, Dorene Ciarcia, Martha Conneely, George Kelly, Laila Mandour, Peter Denegre, Mary Frazeur, Terry Santapaola, Hannah Granfield

Others:

Brook Berry, Library Director
Carolyn Vallieres, Friends of the Wethersfield Library

Chairman Dorene Ciarcia called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2017
MEETING:**

Joe Aguiar moved to approve the minutes, as corrected, of the February meeting. Peter Denegre seconded. Martha Conneely abstained. The motion passed, 8-0, 1 abstention.

FRIENDS OF THE WETHERSFIELD LIBRARY:

Carolyn reported on the final preparations for the Book Sale start tomorrow and summarized the schedule. Carolyn also reported that the Friends have agreed to fund a scholarship through Dollars for Scholars. The Friends also voted to fund the passes for museums, to fund the summer reading program, and to use the Davidoff bequest for the improvements to the children's area learning environment that we have previously discussed.

Several Board members attended the recent terrarium program funded by the Friends, and reported it was very enjoyable.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Dorene mentioned that she will not be here for the April 25 meeting and asked members to make sure to let Brook know if they cannot attend.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Brook summarized the highlights from the February monthly report.

Two high school students were brought on to help with Family Place. The last Family Program was held today.

Take Your Child to the Library Day was a success.

This is the final week of the winter reading program, which has involved two hundred children.

Hoopla is off to strong start. Staff will monitor it as it develops.

The summer reading theme, which is Build a Better World. The Library will be operating the summer reading programs for all age groups.

The current budget is 65% spent out as of last week, which is close to last year.

With respect to next year's budget, the health insurance numbers have been adjusted since the Board's vote in February. The Town will wait until last minute to lock in the rates. The Library's proposed budget remains essentially flat.

Motion to Authorize Submission of Grant Request

Staff would like to apply for a Keane Foundation grant for the teen program. Since many teens in the Library program do not join other programs, Brook feels that this will supplement and complement other available programs.

Laila Mandour moved that the Board authorize the submission of a request for a grant in the amount of \$2,700. Martha Conneely seconded. All present voted in favor. The motion passed 9-0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Dorene reported that the Finance Committee interviewed three firms for the position of financial advisor to the Board. The Committee recommends the hiring of Fiduciary Investment Advisors (FIA) and Dorene explained the reasons for the recommendation.

Motion to Authorize Hiring of Financial Advisor

Laila Mandour moved to authorize the hiring of Fiduciary Investment Advisors as financial advisor to the Board. Mary Frazier seconded. All present voted in favor, the motion passed 9-0.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Outreach Committee has not met but will be continuing to work on branding, and is close to a decision on the new one.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

After interviewing four candidates including FIO, MB&A, Library Strategies, and TDC, the Committee narrowed the choice to two. Brook and members of the Committee discussed the merits of each, and the Committee recommended the hiring of MB&A.

Motion to Authorize Hiring of Strategic Planning Advisor

Laila Mandour moved to authorize the hiring of MB&A to assist in the strategic planning process. Hannah Granfield seconded. All present voted in favor. The motion passed 9-0.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Dorene reminded all of the dates of the Book Sale, the budget workshop presentation to the Council on Saturday, April 8, and the public hearing on the budget on April 17.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Peter Denegre moved to adjourn. Martha Conneely seconded. All present voted in favor. The motion passed, 9-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George Kelly
Secretary