

Harwinton Public Library
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:08, by Art. Members attending were Art, Leslie, Debbie, Paul, Carol, Naomi and Library Director Alice Freiler.

Secretary's Report:

Motion to accept Secretary's Report made by Leslie, seconded by Carol, unanimous.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by Naomi, seconded by Paul, unanimous.

Concerns raised that we haven't received updated balances from new town treasurer for 2 months. We will continue to pursue.

Director's Report:

Operational budget on track. We need to get updated op. budget because intern was being paid out of incorrect line item.

Invoice sent to town 1 month ago for computers, we haven't received response.

2023/24 budget has been submitted, we haven't received any word.

HB 6800 - second hearing on ebook Bill is 3/10 at 11:00. Alice encourages attending or submitting testimony.

National Volunteer Week is the third week of April. We haven't been able to celebrate our volunteers for several years beyond a note of thanks, so Alice requests 400. from Annual Fund for celebration. Carol made motion to spend up to 400. for volunteer celebration. Seconded by Paul. Unanimous.

Grants and Donations:

AARP Community Challenge Grant is highly competitive and requires fast action, so Alice feels its not a good investment of time for 2023.

Civic Family Services is offering community grants this year. Alice will submit by 4/1, to add to Youth/Adult services.

Other news:

Weather has prompted an early closure on 2/22 and again on 2/28, in conjunction with town closures.

Survey of area libraries shows a sharp decline on books on CD vs downloadables. Alice plans to scale back, purchasing sales and continue to use Middletown Library Services Center for 2024/25 and shift more funds to downloadables.

Nutmeg books are voted on by youth of all ages. Alice requests to purchase collection for Library to encourage involvement. Leslie made motion to spend up to 400. on collection from Appeal funds. Debbie seconded. Unanimous.

Dues has been deducted from paychecks erroneously from 2 staff members and although the deductions are no longer happening, the funds have not been reimbursed. 2 months later, it still hasn't been resolved.

Committee Reports:

Art-Nancy Roman's artwork will be up through April, with an opening reception on 3/22, 6-8. We encourage all to stop by.

Budget-no report

Computers-no further report

Fundraising-a few donations continue to come in.

Governance-no report

Property and Building-Alice suggested creating a building committee to address floors and painting. Although it's been discussed with town, nothing is happening so it's time to develop a plan. We will meet at Library on Wed. 3/22, 5:30. All Board members are welcome.

Motion to adjourn at 7:42 made by Carol, seconded by Naomi, unanimous

Respectfully Submitted by Leslie Flowers

