WEST BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRRY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Monday, December 4, 2023

Call to order: President K. Michael called meeting at 5:00 p.m. followed by pledge of allegiance.

Present: M. Durfee, K. Michael, T. Barnhart, S. Jennings, D. Beamish, S. Smith, K. Shirey, K. Glasser, J. Sheridan absent: K. Kripli, J. Headings.

Approval of Agenda: Request to add under Old Business #2 lawsuit update and #5 under New Business: Art and Wine walk. Motion made by K. Shirey to accept agenda with the additions, supported by S. Jennings. All in favor, motion passed

Board minutes: On file. S. Smith motioned to approve previous minutes as presented, T. Barnhart supported, all in favor, motion passed

Bills to Pay: Reviewed by board members. Motion to pay bills totaling $4602.15 made by S. Smith, S. Jennings supported and all in favor, motion passed.

Financials: John reported current financials just sent over to accountants.

Correspondence: none

Old Business: Update on millage campaign- looking at May as there will be a school proposal and we can present at that time. T. Barnhart motioned to proceed with a millage request of .4 mil and place on the May ballot. K. Michael supported and all in favor, the motion passed. The committee will meet in January to formulate the next steps. John then reported on the status of the pending court appeal. It is slated to be heard on December 8 at 11:00 a.m. Our attorney is to attend and will report the outcome. There are other library systems watching this case.

New Business: #1 Christmas bonus for staff was discussed. Funds for any such bonus cannot come out of library funds the board will personally pitch in to pay for gift certificates for staff. $50.00 for each full-time employee and $25.00 for each part-time employee. S. Smith will purchase. K.S. motioned to proceed with planned gift certificates and S. Jennings supported. All in favor, motion passed. #2 Staff changes were discussed. #3 Cabinets were ordered as discussed recently- Office Central giving a particularly good price. #4 John reported on a recent article on Bridge Michigan regarding the AxMItax group proposing to get rid of the property tax. This will affect any government entity that uses these funds for services including schools, 911, law enforcement, fire departments, etc. This will be watched very closely. #5 Art and Wine Walk went well, about 600 people were in attendance. 80 people visited the Book Store, many who had no idea it existed.

Director's report: On file and reviewed with board. Silent auction brought in $1258.00. Audit completed and he will present in February, meeting. He felt prelim was looking good.

Next meeting will be February 5, 2023, 5:00 p.m. as the New Year holiday is on our regular meeting day in January.

Mtg adjourned by K. Michael at 6:00 p.m.

Kathy Shirey, secretary