

Willington Public Library  
Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting  
May 10, 2021

*Roll call and establishment of quorum*

*Present: Elena Testa, Kathy Ryan-Gidman, KarenAnn Caldwell, Joy Wrona Joan Taraskiewicz, Rebecca Cartabiano, Debbie Linares and Hope Grove (co-directors)*

**Call to order** 7:02pm.

*A quorum was established.*

*This meeting was held online via ZOOM per Covid-19 requirements.*

*The **minutes** from April's meeting were accepted by a majority. Joy made the motion to accept, Elena seconded. Kathy abstained.*

**The Treasurer's Report:**

*The revenues for April = 192.45*

*The expenses for April = 17,757.64*

**The Director's Report:**

- 1. Rebecca needs to be added to the bank accounts in order to get the information she needs as treasurer. Joan moved that "Rebecca be made a signer for all bank accounts held by Willington Public Library." Elena seconded the motion. It passed by a majority. Rebecca abstained.*
- 2. ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)" funding is to be used by the states by September 30, 2022. It is designated for helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches. (Director's report May 10, 2021) grant application needs to be submitted by June 30. The Board discussed how to spend the money (c. \$3000). A variety of ideas were discussed. Board members were asked to send Karen Ann any other ideas they may think of.*
- 3. An intern has been hired. Jennifer Melnick will complete 120 hours working in the library as part of her MLS degree. This is not a paid position.*
- 4. The CD from last month's discussion has been renewed at 0.25% interest.*
- 5. The directors would like to have the cell phone activated. They have been using their personal phones for library business.*
- 6. A follow up on the drinking water: There was a problem in 2019 but that has been resolved and the water is good now.*
- 7. We need to hire someone to clean the overhead lighting fixtures and replace bulbs. The bulbs are expensive to buy.*
- 8. The Friends of Willington Public Library are considering funding a plaque that will carry the library's mission statement. It will be installed in the library.*

9. KarenAnn was contacted by the school librarians to see if WPL is willing to share a booth with them on Willington Day in an effort to promote all of the libraries. The Library Board members supported this idea.
10. Upcoming elections: four members from the Board of Directors are up for election. Some will be running for two year terms and two for six year terms. When the slates are finalized it will be noted in a future meeting.

#### **New Business:**

1. Summer Program: There was discussion about the upcoming summer program and whether it is appropriate or even possible to coordinate with the REC department for activities. Debbie has been planning the library's summer program. She has had contact with a library in Ohio that has an innovative program that includes all ages and activities both in the library and out in the community. Joan wants the summer program to have, in light of the confusing school years recently, an educational component that can help to reinforce the goals and objectives of the school curriculum.
2. KarenAnn wants the members of the library board to be ambassadors for the library, to promote the library with Willington's residents.
3. Charging for library use by outside groups: We need to consider whether we want to do this or not. To be addressed in a future meeting.
4. Grant writing: It would be helpful for all board members were informed about how to write grants. Michelle Cunningham, a Willington resident who is experienced in obtaining grants, has volunteered to hold a workshop about grant writing.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Investments: Joan called her son who is an investment banker about the various investments that are available. He confirmed her suspicions that choosing an investment plan is not an easy task. We have two plans from two different investment advisors that we can consider. Joan suggested that we table this topic until next month, and at that point we may decide that a special meeting for this topic may be necessary.
2. Workers at the library have pitched in to do the daily maintenance work whenever we have not had a cleaning company. Hiring a company has been problematic in that they do not always show up. So, Debbie would like to find a way to monetarily compensate the workers for the extra chores they have done. The problem is to come up with an equitable way to do this. Tabled until next month.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Elena. Joy seconded. Passed *unanimously* 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

JoAnne Taraskiewicz,

Secretary

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