EAST HADDAM LIBRARY SYSTEM

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 14, 2022

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:37 PM
   Trustees Present: D Barlow, J Ranudo, J Broe, M Mazur, W Barney
   Also present: Library Director: M Gilroy
2. Minutes of the regular meeting of June 9, 2022 accepted as presented
3. Reports
   A. Library Director
      i. Staff members have been absent due to cases of Covid but Library operations were not impacted
      ii. Libraries have been told that the plexiglass partitions can be removed. After a discussion, it was determined that they should remain in place for the time being
      iii. The outdoor Reading Gardens are being used. The Wi-Fi boosters still need to be installed. It is anticipated that this will be done by the end of the Summer.
      iv. The Cubeta family would like to donate a marble bench for the Rathbun Library branch in memory of their son. Motion by J Ranudo/J Broe to add this item to New Business was approved 5-0
      v. The Bradford Pear tree by the rear Rathbun entrance has a blight and will have to be removed which the Town will do by the end of July.
      vi. The various Summer programs are going very well and are well attended. The libraries are averaging five programs a week.
      vii. The remaining 2021-22 budgets invoices are being processed. The Library Director will have a final 2021-22 budget summary at the August meeting.
      viii. M Gilroy brought up a personnel matter that the Board should review. Motion by J Ranudo/J Broe to add to New Business, a motion of hold an executive session. Approved 5-0
      ix. M Gilroy reviewed the presentation by former ALA President, Maureen Sullivan, and shared some of the insights she provided.
   B. Committees
      i. Finance Committee did not meet
      ii. Governance Committee did not meet
      iii. Program Committee did not meet
4. Old Business
   A. The 2022-23 Budget is in place but there are no updates as of yet
   B. There were no Building or Grants updates
   C. There was a discussion regarding the 2022 Board goals. Time was spent on Goal 3, Becoming More Effective Trustees. Some material was distributed and the Trustees were asked to review the material to facilitate future discussions. M Gilroy urged who might interested in becoming involved with the CLA.

D. W Barney reviewed the work of the Town's New Library Study Committee. He indicted the the Committee had determined that the existing libraries could not be enhanced to create libraries for the 21st century and were recommending (1) that the building be sold and (2) that a new, single, library be built. He reported that the Committee had determined that the lower level of the MOC did not have the space for a library, was not the proper environment for a library, and could not be expanded to meet future growth and needs. The Committee is looking at several Town owned and privately owned sites for a possible 12,000-14,000 square foot library building.

5. New Business

A. Motion by J Broe/D Barlow to accepted the offer of a marble bench from the Cubeta family given in memory for their son, to be place at the Rathbun Library branch. Approved 5-0.

B. Motion by J Ranudo/J Broe to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Approved 5-0. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:33 PM. The Board exited Executive Session at 7:52 PM. The Chair reported that the Board had asked the Co-Chairs and the Director to send a letter to the First Selectman regarding the need to address this personnel matter and the negative impact not addressing this matter would have on library operations.

6. There was no audience of citizens
7. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM

Submitted by Recording Secretary W Barney