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North Branford Library Board

Special Meeting
November 9, 2016
7:30 pm
Smith Library

Present: Carol Davidson, Chairman
Virginia Fallon
Debra Falvey

Robert Hull, Library Director

1. Minutes of previous meetings

MOTION: Chairman Davidson moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting, seconded by Member Falvey.

With all in favor, motion passed.

2. Library Board report

Chairman Davidson reported that she had not heard back from the Recreation Department. She will contact them next week for an update on the book group.

3. Library Director Report

Library Director Bob Hull reported on the following items:

Book and thumb thing sales- Thumb thing sales have been good amounting to a total of \$30.00. Book sales have done well with approximately \$180.00 raised over the seven weeks time frame.

Inter-Library delivery problems – the Lion group is actively working on improving the service.

Statistics first quarter – an overview was given for July through September with statistics on circulation, public services, programs and acquisitions. Director Bob Hull overviewed new

State laws governing holds on books, as well as exceptions on holds that can be done in person in the library.

4. Maker Space possibilities

Library Director Bob Hull reported this item would remain on the agenda but had nothing new to report at this meeting. Due to a brief staff shortage there has not been a big focus this month, staff has been asked for their input and ideas.

5. Religious and Political Group: Meetings and displays

Library Director Bob Hull overviewed a recent request from a person to set up a table for religious information and asked for direction from the Board.

Members discussed appropriateness of allowing permission and decided it would not be appropriate. There was further discussion on when political meetings were considered appropriate, such as when an elected State or Federal official was present for their constituents.

6. State rules for meetings and agendas

Library Director Bob Hull overviewed State rules regarding posting and submitting agendas and meeting minutes.

7. State Road signs for libraries

Library Director Bob Hull overviewed information from CT District Traffic Engineer Todd Ingarra regarding State library road signs. Steps were discussed to begin the process.

MOTION: Virginia Fallon moved to direct Library Director Bob Hull to contact Lt. Gary Ripa requesting State library signs be placed near both libraries and continue with the appropriate steps to follow through with installation of State library signs, seconded by Debra Falvey.

With all in favor, motion passed

8. Donation of a painting

Library Director Bob Hull informed Board members that he received a letter from Mr. Chris Thomas expressing interest in donating a painting of the Mill Pond Tavern to hang in the library.

Members discussed the request and all agreed it would be a wonderful addition to the library with the possibility of presenting a historical talk related to the painting.

Member Debra Falvey opened discussion on potential ideas for additions to the libraries.

Member Falvey suggested the following ideas:

 A college SAT prep website be offered to patrons.

■ A monthly library subscription to the magazine entitled “Book Page” which contains book reviews.

■ A seed library, which would allow patrons the chance to donate and take seeds.

Member Falvey submitted information on all three ideas with handouts and information on usage from other libraries.

Director Bob Hull suggested he would look into the possibility of offering the SAT prep site; he would share the information on the magazine with staff and ask for feedback. Mr. Hull would also look into the seed library and suggested members discuss these ideas at the next meeting.

Member Virginia Fallon opened discussion on the budget and gave an overview of the recent Town meeting she attended for emergency preparedness. She asked for clarification on the buildings designated for heating and cooling centers since all the buildings listed close on a Sunday.

Library Director Robert Hull gave an overview of the heating and cooling center agreement with the libraries should the services be needed. Mr. Hull also spoke about discussion on using the libraries as emergency centers, however the size of the libraries prohibits their use.

Member Fallon requested beautification monies for both libraries be added to the budget including mulch for gardens as well as power washing at Atwater.

Director Bob Hull overviewed plans in place to power wash the back of the building and fences. He will check on the status with public works.

Members discussed the potential of a garden maintenance company volunteering their time to keep Atwater grounds maintained. Members discussed Natureworks participation at Smith Library with gratitude expressed for Nancy DuBrule and her staff’s hard work and dedication.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Member Fallon, moved to adjourn at 8:29 pm., seconded by Member Falvey.

With all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Caruso
Recording Secretary