

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order by Alan Olenick at 6:40 p.m. on March 24, 2015 downstairs in the Ora Mason Library.

Present were Gert Beckwith, Ted Brown, Patricia Donnelly, Joseph Fortino, John Galvin, Charles Gunning, Curtis Hodgkins, William Lang, John Lewis, Mary Malenda, Alan Olenick, and Director Kathy Giotsas. Absent were: Michelle Bernardi and Pamela Gardner. Also, present were staff members Colleen Bailee, Bernadette Niedermeier and Samantha Lee.

Minutes of February 17, 2015 meeting were approved as printed by motion of C. Gunning, seconded by T. Brown, and carried.

Treasurer's report: C. Gunning: report was accepted by motion of W. Lang, seconded by T. Brown, and carried.

Director/Staff Reports: K. Giotsas: Everything is going well. \$20,000 grant received from International Association of New Haven; we will receive one-third of the grant. She reported on various projects; Ora Mason branch is up and running. She is looking to submit a grant to make Ora Mason branch handicapped accessible.

Staff reports:

C. Bailie has been ordering some books for L. Piantino branch with Rosanne to keep their collection current until new branch manager is hired.

B. Niedermeier: Bring your children to library on Feb. 7th was a big success. Almost 100 were present. Fifth and sixth graders from Carrigan School have all come for their orientation. Project was a success.

Samantha Lee, new youth assistant was introduced.

Friends of Library: P. Donnelly: membership is growing. Staff/volunteers lunch will be April 22nd. Fundraisers are being planned.

Committees:

Building and Grounds

Nominating Committee: W. Lang had 4 names given to him for positions on the Board. Two did not respond or return resumes. He put the name of Susan Walker in nomination for a position on the Board, seconded by M. Malenda, and the motion was carried. He put the name of William Heffernan III into nomination for a position on the Board, seconded by J. Lewis, and the motion was carried.

Audit Committee: J. Galvin; committee met March 23rd and worked on rules for the committee. This will be presented in April.

Old Business:

Ora Mason update A. Olenick gave list of small items still to be finished up.

2015-16 budget: K. Giotsas regarding vacancy of Branch Manager at Piantino: 4 candidates have been interviewed and there is one strong candidate. The position will not be filled until we get our budget numbers. She, Claudia Volano, Colleen Bailee and Catherine Bushman are rotating at LP branch, each spending time there. Discussion on what to do if budget is lower than requested.

Road construction near LP branch: road construction on Route 1 is causing difficulties in using the parking lot. Board would like to meet with City Engineer about this. President will set up a meeting and inform members.

New Business:

Conflict of Interest forms were distributed. Please read them, sign and return to Director.

Library fundraiser: President distributed information on Mystery dinner/murder event on May 29th at Apps with performance coordinated by Sean and Margie Maher. Only 100 tickets will be sold at \$50 per person. \$500 will be given to West Haven High School Theatre Workshop and the rest to the library. Board members will each be asked to be responsible for four tickets.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:05p.m. and returned to regular session at 8:23 p.m.

Motion to add Tuition reimbursement agreement to Agenda made by W. Lang, seconded by Donnelly and carried.

Motion to add Employment Agreement to Agenda made by W. Lang, seconded by P. Donnelly, and carried.

Motion made by W. Lang, and seconded by C. Gunning, to approve Amended and Restated Tuition Reimbursement Agreement between VIA and Ekaterini Giotsas was carried.

Motion made by W. Lang, and seconded by P. Donnelly, to approve Employment Agreement between VIA and Ekaterini Giotsas was carried.

The Proposed 2015-16 Budget Presentation to City Council by the Director was distributed.

President announced a bookmobile patron has died and suggested donations be made to West Haven Public Library.

Two Board members requested more time to digest the policies to be voted. It was suggested they be presented at one meeting and voted upon at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

NEXT MEETING WILL BE APRIL 21, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.