

February 17, 2015

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order by Alan Olenick at 6:40 p.m. on February 17, 2015 in the Connie Sacco Room of the Main Library.

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

President Olenick welcomed John Lewis to his first VIA meeting.

The March meeting date has been changed from March 17th to March 24th.

Minutes of January 20, 2015 meeting were approved as printed by motion of W. Lang, seconded by P. Donnelly, and carried.

Treasurer's report: C. Gunning: we have received 58% of budgeted money from the City and spent 63%.

Director/Staff Reports: K. Giotsas: Ora Mason branch will open to public on Thursday Feb. 19th from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. She has been working on 2015-16 budget. Library is short staffed by two full time positions; she, C Volano and C. Baillee have been filling it. Staff reports: (other than that in printed reports).

K. Maher: waiting for bill from Cordone & Tonucci so we can get reimbursement from City for lighting (we have already received \$7,000 and expect approximately \$13,000 from the next bill). She is working on maintenance contracts. Working on Investment Policy with Brian Elliott to get what we are already doing into writing. She is waiting for another insurance bid to come in.

E. Ryan: Reference Room is going well. IRS booklets in bulk are not available this year. She will print some out for Reference Room use only. A 1040 information session is set for March. She is trying to get a VIA program for next year. Revenue is going up; some of it due to FAX use. She has placed a sizeable book order; getting more genealogy books.

Friends of Library: P. Donnelly: Friends will sponsor the Feb. 21st cabaret with Andy Weil and Shannon McMahan. They are looking for people to attend the performance and also to join the Friends. Talking about having a "tea" later in the year.

Committees:

Building and Grounds: B. Lang meeting was held to review long standing contracts on boiler, alarm system, etc. It is difficult to determine what some contracts represent. He will ask the Fire Chief what we need. He will request a "history" of problems with Ora Mason Branch from the Police Department re: vandalism, loitering, etc. Signs marked "property under surveillance" can be posted.

Old Business:

Ora Mason update: Total bill from Cordone and Tonucci is expected to be approximately \$305,000.

Audit Committee: will be chaired by J. Galvin, President Olenick appointed Ted Brown and Joe Fortino to also serve on the committee.

New Business:

Policies: Gifts and Donations Policy: Motion made by W. Lang and seconded by J. Galvin to approve the Gifts and Donations Policy. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee: W. Lang two members have resigned this month Harry Peschell and Gretchen Schaal. Richard DiChiara was not replaced after he resigned because he left the area. He has a name of a local attorney to be contacted. Letters of thanks for their many years on the VIA will be sent to Harry and Gretchen. Flowers will be sent to Gretchen at her new residence in Ohio.

Resolution on expenditure of funds from New Haven Community Foundation Endowment Fund. The following resolution was approved by motion of W. Lang, seconded by C. Gunning and carried with one abstention.

Resolution authorizing the expenditure of up to \$150,000 for the renovations of the Ora Mason Branch Library and the purchase of a Bookmobile from The New Haven Community Foundation Endowment Fund

WHEREAS, on February 17th the Village Improvement Association (DBA West Haven Public Library) approved using the special endowment fund for the new bookmobile and renovation of the Ora Mason Branch Library of the West Haven Library System; and
WHEREAS, the Library Board approved the withdrawal of \$150,000 for the purchase of a new bookmobile and the completion of the repairs of the Ora Mason building and desires to have it paid from the New Haven Community Foundation Endowment Fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. To approve the use of up to \$150,000 from the Endowment Fund for the renovations and the bookmobile.
2. This resolution is effective upon passage.

Adopted by the Village Improvement Association at a regular meeting thereof this 17th day of February, 2015.

Kathy Giotsas, Executive Director of the West Haven Public Library System
Gertrude Beckwith, VIA Board Secretary.

Budget for fiscal year 2015-16: Director presented the budget; she worked to separate everything in budget to the different branches. Motion to adopt budget in amount of \$1,758,315 was made by J. Galvin, seconded by C. Gunning, and carried.

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:15 p.m.
Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

NEXT MEETING WILL BE MARCH 24, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.