

VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

October 20, 2015

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order by John Galvin at 6:35 p.m. on October 20, 2015 in the Connie Sacco Room of the Main Library. Present were Gert Beckwith, Patricia Donnelly, Joe Fortino, John Galvin, Charles Gunning, William Heffernan, Curtis Hodgkins, William Lang, Mary Malenda, Susan Walker, Director Colleen Bailee and Assistant Director Claudia Volano. Absent were: Michelle Bernardi, Ted Brown, Pamela Gardner, John Lewis, and Alan Olenick. Also present were staff members Catherine Bushman, Samantha Lee, Bernadette Neidermier, Amanda Gilbertie and Andrea Zimmerman.

Minutes of September 22, 2015 meeting were approved as printed by motion of W. Heffernan, seconded by W. Lang, and carried. Minutes of September 30, 2015 Special Meeting were approved as printed by motion of W. Heffernan, seconded by W. Lang, and carried.

Staff Reports. S. Lee: the statistics are good and circulation has been up for the summer months and also the month of September.

C. Bushman: taught an ESL class with ten members. She has started weeding and is ordering international books from the grant money. Upcoming programs: refugees in Connecticut and English language learners.

B. Neidermier: all going well. Two new search engines were obtained which are easy for kids to navigate. She will be reading stories to preschoolers at the Ward-Heitmann House Museum this week – sitting on hay bales.

A. Zimmerman: good turnout for teen programs. John Galvin obtained a \$50 Stop & Shop gift card which she used to purchase pumpkins and pretzels for decorating. Also cupcakes were contributed by West Haven Emblem Cub. There will be a book discussion on Harper Lee's two books. Looking for a mason to mount the flag pole holder and the Knox box. Author talk: Amanda has written a book about Danbury State Fair and will have an author talk on Nov. 17th.

A. Gilbertie: Things are going well and programs have been well received. She scheduled a four part money program which was well received and will be repeated in the spring. She is booked through December for tech help. She is working with C. Bailee on a grant to create a separate space for teens to work on computers.

Director's Report: C. Volano: The IANH grant is going well with programs in process. There will be a foreign film festival with no dialogue and International Story Time with bilingual readers.

C. Bailee: There will be a staff meeting on Nov. 2nd and the library will be closed from 9 – 11; the staff will meet quarterly. She is holding meetings with librarians. She is looking at state reports which are due in November. She participated in interview for new accountant. The technical services librarian position has been posted; there were no internal candidates.

Treasurer's report: C. Gunning: Things are going along as expected.

Friends of Library: P. Donnelly: A. Olenick has arranged a full page ad in West Haven Voice; next meeting is Nov. 3rd. Mission Statement has been developed. A new Friend

has volunteered to contact potential sponsors and a bilingual flyer is in process. She is networking with other Friends of Conn. Libraries (FOCL) to get funds from unsaleable books by means of a container in the parking lot. Working on possible fund raiser to raise more funds to help the library.

Committees:

Audit: J. Galvin: audit has been received with no recommendations. He is working to get our accountant at our next meeting. Form 990 has been filed with IRS.

Old Business:

C. Bailee: second interview with accountant candidate was held today; there was only one final candidate and she is checking references and background.

Fence: C. Volano is still working on the two separate accidents. The accident insured through Geico Insurance seems to be settled.

New Business:

Board went into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. and returned to regular session at 7:30 p.m.

W. Lang called attention to the history of the West Haven library which was written by former Board member Patricia Herbert. He would like to have a copy given to West Haven Historical Society and also to Ward-Heitmann House Museum. He is willing to defray the possible cost of making these copies. Also copies should be given to new members of the Board. Director will look into this.

Director needs a a letter of support for the grant to create teen space for computers.

Motion by W. Lang, seconded by W. Heffernan and carried to approve the Director's request to initiate composition of a grant to create a "teen computer space" in the library.

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:35 p.m. by W. Heffernan, seconded by M. Malenda.
Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

NEXT MEETING WILL BE NOVEMBER 17, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.