

## VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

February 21, 2017

The Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was called to order by President Alan Olenick at 6:30 p.m. on February 21, 2017 in the basement meeting room of the Ora Mason Library.

Present were Gert Beckwith, Michelle Bernardi, Patricia Donnelly, Joseph Fortino, John Galvin, Charles Gunning, William Heffernan, Curtis Hodgkins, William Lang, John Lewis, Mary Malenda, Alan Olenick, Susan Walker, Director Colleen Bailie and Assistant Director Catherine Bushman. Absent were: Ted Brown, and Pamela Gardner. Also present were staff members Jackie Bush, Travis Feder, and Bernadette Neidermier and William Sapienza, architect. .

**Minutes** of January 17 2017 meeting were approved as printed by motion of Bill Lang, seconded by Bill Heffernan and carried.

**Director's Report:** C. Bailie: Maria Zervos, librarian for Ora Mason branch, will begin work on March 6<sup>th</sup>; six new employees have been hired, two more part time positions will be filled and then we will be fully staffed. Staff meeting was held on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> and next one will be in May. Budget for FY 17-18 was submitted to City on February 2 in amount of \$1,862,000. Hot Spot (T-Mobile) She wants to start this program with five at \$28.99 per month each. Charging stations at Main would be \$800 each. She spoke to City CDBG committee for \$14,000 grant to redo Main parking lot; she is getting an estimate to fix the fence, gain six parking spaces and fix the parking lot. LP open house on January 17 was well attended; great feedback about new sign. Maintenance: sprinkler at Main will be fixed. Libraries were closed Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> because of snow. Positive feedback is coming from Love your Library campaign.

**Staff Reports:.** C. Bushman Staff meeting had lots of information; Dress policy was discussed. Second letter for reimbursement has been sent out. New book marks have come in and are being distributed to patrons..

J. Bush: has picked up the program started by Sam Lee. She is working with WH High School media person. Building up collection and working on summer reading program.

T. Feder: author talk was held with 49 present. He is doing tech help at OM once a week. Love your Library campaign going well. New printers were installed at Main and LP.

B. Neidermier: circulation is up. School visits from Carrigan are going well.

William Sapienza showed prints of work to be done at OM. The state grant in amount of \$229,000 has already been approved. Bids were opened on January 19, 2017. There were 8 bids and the lowest was Jay A. Rosa Company in amount of \$676,972 which is \$200,000 more than we told State the project would cost. Some parts of the project could be cut out. Otis Elevator costs \$96,000. We have four choices: 1. Do the whole project. 2. Make changes to get project down to \$500,000; 3. Just install an elevator; 4. Do nothing. After discussion, motion made by B. Lang, seconded by B. Heffernan and carried to go for the whole project. Approximately \$210,000 will be taken from endowment. The library will not be closed except for brief periods.

Motion made by B. Lang, seconded by J. Galvin and carried to accept bid of J.A. Rosa Company.

**Treasurer's report:** C. Gunning: we are doing OK. Regarding closing the account and moving the money from Greater New Haven Foundation to Morgan Stanley account, the contract says they need 60 days notice. The paper work for the transfer has been done.

**Committees:** . no reports

**Friends of Library:** P. Donnelly: the on-going book sale is doing well. She is exploring selling old books on line. She has contacted Salt N Pepper group regarding holding a concert. Colleen Bailey will speak at the CLA conference on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

**New Business**

**LP library building:** A. Olenick discussed enabling the Director to negotiate with the City to take over the second floor of the building where L. Piantino library is located. After discussion of the uses of the space, it was agreed that she will write a letter to Mayor O'Brien asking permission to have the VIA to take over the unused space.

**Address for LP Building:** There is no address on the building (1 Forest Road). Motion by B. Heffernan, seconded by C. Gunning, and carried that we request permission from the City to put an address on the building and, if permission is granted, we will do this for an approximate cost of \$1,450.

**Executive Session:** Board went into Executive Session at 7:55 by motion of B. Heffernan, seconded by B. Lang and carried. Board came out of Executive Session at 8:05 by motion of B. Heffernan, seconded by S. Walker and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06

Minutes taken by Gert Beckwith

**NEXT MEETING WILL BE MARCH 21, 2017**