

Woodbridge Library Commission Minutes
May 10, 2021
Via Tele-Conference 6:30

Members Present: Jeanette Glicksman (Chair), Tina Brogadir, Renee Bevacqua-Bollier, Jim Moriarty, Emily Sharp, Ellen Spark, Andi Doucette & Judi Young

Members Absent: Tom Shernow

Also Present: Eric Werthmann, Library Director (LD) and Sandy Stein, Board of Selectman.

1. Call to Order at 6:36 by Jeanette Glicksman. Member, Jim Moriarty, serving as acting secretary.

2. Additions to the Agenda – None

3. Public Comment and Liaison Report-

a) Public comment- N/A

b) Friends of the Library – Eric Werthmann (LD) informed us in the Friends’ Report that the Earth Day book drive was very successful, with the Friends collecting 100s of donated books. Four high school students donated time to assist with the Earth Day drive and continue to give their time to sort all of the donated books. The Friends’ mini bookstore is profitable.

c) Board of Finance –N/A.

d) Board of Selectman – Sandy Stein informed the Commission that the BOS met on April 14. The BOS approved a request from a town resident to sell coffee and pastries from a coffee cart in the grove between the library and old firehouse. The Town is considering possible ordinances to apply to the installation of specific types of artificial turf fields in the future—any ordinance would not impact the new field that is being installed at Amity high school. The State of Connecticut has also been examining ordinances and bans on certain types of artificial turf fields. The Annual Town Meeting will take place virtually on May 17, 2021. The Town will host “Summer Second Saturdays” from May to September, sponsored and coordinated by the Library, Recreation Department and Human Services, and featuring family fun activities. The BOS will meet on May 12, 2021, to consider Neighborhood Assistance Applications from the Teen Center and Jewish Community Center, options to go to referendum to finance certain improvements to town facilities, and the demolition of the club house at the country club.

4. Approval of Minutes

From April 11, 2021 Commission meeting – Renee Bevacqua-Bollier moved to accept the minutes and seconded by Emily Sharp. The motion passed 6-0-2, with Andi Doucette & Judi Young abstaining.

5. Committees –

- a. 1) Budget & Finance – Munis and 405 Reports- The Commission members received April financial reports and the 405 (Funds) report. The 405 (Funds) report shows \$3671.12 of Expenditures. There were outlays for a new iPad (purchased with funds from a State grant) and Kanopy, overdrive, and Hoopla. LD Eric noted that the slight overage on the Munis “Automation” line item was an error and there is no overage.

Tina Brogadir moved to accept both reports. Andi Doucette seconded, and the motion passed 8-0.

- b. Policy & Personnel –

LD reported a robust response to the search for two part-time circulation assistants.

There are a number of high quality applicants, the application deadline is May 12, and interviews are expected to begin next week.

A part-time reference librarian furloughed as a result of the Covid pandemic has been brought back to work two days per week.

It is expected that additional personnel will be brought back on or about 7/1/21 when the Library increases its hours of operation.

The search continues for a full-time Children’s Librarian. The LD is confident that a qualified candidate will be identified and hired.

- c. Property Maintenance – N/A

6. Directors report –

- a. The Library’s new website has won a Connecticut Library Association Publicity Award. The Library, along with other winners, will be honored during the Connecticut Library Association’s annual conference, held virtually from May 10, 2021 to May 14, 2021.
- b. The Library is expanding its programming, utilizing outdoor space for music and other programming.
- c. Patron traffic is increasing in the Library, but nowhere near pre-pandemic levels.

7. New Business –

- a. Library Commission Membership- The terms of five members of the Commission expire on June 30; four of the five have decided not to seek another term. The current Chair’s term will expire on June 30, 2021, and member, Jim Moriarty will serve as temporary Chair during the July meeting. New officers will be elected in accordance with the Commission by-laws during the September 2021 meeting.
- b. American Rescue Plan Act- The State Library Association was awarded \$2.75 million from the American Rescue Plan Act and will distribute \$2 million to local libraries. The money has already been allocated amongst local libraries. The Library will receive, after filing its grant application, a grant of a little more than \$16,000. The LD

is considering uses for the funds based on the parameters set by the federal government. The LD will use the grant process as an opportunity to review the potential for the Library to become CIPA compliant, which primarily involves filtering all internet accessible computers within the Library. The process to achieve CIPA compliance would not be costly and is necessary to use technology purchased with federal funds within the Library.

8. Old Business -

- a. Discussion of funding renovations to Center Gym. The Library has been asked to contribute to this project which includes new gym flooring. The Library may be able to allocate unused funds from the fiscal 2021 budget as its contribution. The LD will obtain additional information, including the amount the Library will be asked to contribute.

9. Executive Session – N /A

10. Items for June 14, 2021 Meeting – 6:30 P.M.

- a. Center Gym renovation project
- b. Library Commission Membership

11. Adjournment

Moved to adjourn by Ellen Spark. Seconded by Emily Sharp. Unanimously approved 8-0.
Adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James Moriarty, Acting Woodbridge Library Commission Secretary