

Meeting Minutes of the Peru Free Library Board of Trustees  
May 19, 2021  
Videoconference Meeting

Attendees: Patrick Andrews, Terri Cioppa, Rocky Divoll, Sandy Divoll, Diane Haight, Marque Moffett, Parker O'Mara, Becky Pace, Sara Richman.

Excused: Tracy Orkin

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President Marque. The agenda was approved with a motion by Pat and seconded by Sandy. The minutes of the April meeting as corrected were approved with a motion by Rocky and seconded by Pat.

Director's Report—The Library has now been open Wednesday and Thursday for two and one-half weeks with the number of patrons on different days ranging from 5 to 24. The lobby pickup is still very busy and could be continued for the immediate future. During the summer there will be programs in which both children and adults can participate. The book club will begin meeting in June and plans to continue throughout the summer. A music program with "River Jack" will be an opportunity for children to write lyrics, sing and record a song. A grant through CEFLS will provide this program to all libraries. One session of an art program for 3-5 years old, "Art in the Park", will be held at the Heyworth Village park.

The pass for a reduced admission to the Wild Center in Tupper Lake is now available to our patrons. In addition the pass for reduced admission to the Adirondack Experience in Blue Mountain Lake is available.

The Library has received the funds that had been withheld last year from the Library Service Aid for \$559. Also a donation was received from Jim Langley, our insurance agent, for \$500.

Sandy asked when the Library would be returning *to* regular hours. Becky explained that in CEFLS, one-fourth of the libraries are open for all regular hours for browsing, one-fourth are open for curbside pickup only and one-half are open for curbside pickup and limited browsing hours. At this time, Becky and Stacey are suggesting slowly adding hours and days with possibly opening for regular hours in July and the latest in September. All plans are contingent on the virus cases remaining low. Marque suggested that as hours are increased, there be consideration of being open at times for people who work to be able to browse at the Library.

President's Report—Marque has given Becky the annual evaluation completed by the Board.

Treasurer's Report--The balances in the accounts are checking--\$4,708.62, money market \$85,425.53 and savings--\$1000.47. The Library has received a payment from the Town of Peru for \$13,333. The application for forgiveness of the PPP loan is now available, and Shelley will be completing it for the Library. There are some discrepancies on the Budget vs. Actual report line items, and Becky will be discussing these with Shelley. Becky would like the newspapers and other subscriptions to be part of the Book (5030) line item.

Building/Maintenance Report—No report from Rocky. Becky reported that there have been concerns voiced by patrons about the condition of the American flag in front of the Library. Board members are hopeful that someone will donate a flag to the Library.

Becky sent to the Board by email the information about the Library Construction Grant she received from CEFLS. At this time she has been in contact with four contractors but has only received bids from two. The first contractor looked at the lobby *entryway* from the outside only. This estimate is \$3500. The second contractor looked at the outside and around the door inside. He will be giving an estimate for PVC and for wood materials and also recommended a new door.

A second project that should be completed is repair of the brick steps in front of the building which are deteriorating due to weather. The bricks could be replaced with either pavers or stone. Becky is in the process of getting bids for this repair.

Another possible project is to complete the surround on the fireplace which is currently rough brick. This could be done with the Library's "matching funds" as required by the grant.

The Intent to Apply application is due within one week and will include the first two projects. Our Library would be eligible for a 50/50 matching grant. The approved recipients of the grants will be notified by June 2022 and will receive the funding by September 2022. All funds that are awarded in the grant must be utilized.

Subcommittee Reports—Marque asked that the subcommittees think about when it would be appropriate for them to begin meeting again.

Old Business—No report.

New Business—Sections 3.07 to 3.09 of the Library Bylaws were reviewed for clarification and corrections which were mostly grammar and punctuation. At the June meeting the Board will continue this process for Sections 4.01 to 4.08.

Library Moment—Becky explained that during the first day the Library was open for browsing she thought about the people who were there and what was accomplished. First there was a new patron acquiring a Library card for her 5-year-old child. Then the first meeting of the book club was organized. The pass for the Wild Center was also renewed. Many of the regular adult patrons came to find books from the actual bookshelves. A parent brought her children to obtain books from the children's room. This was a richer Library experience to Becky than just patrons checking out books, and she appreciated that. Also, the perennial beds had been mulched by a volunteer and the grass was mowed by volunteers for the opening day. Thus, the Library was visually appealing on the outside as well as welcoming inside.

The dates for the next two meetings are June 16<sup>th</sup> (possibly in person or by videoconference) and July 21<sup>st</sup> (if a meeting is necessary).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm with a motion by Pat and seconded by Rocky.