

Meeting Minutes of the Peru Free Library Board of Trustees
November 2, 2022
In Person Meeting

Attendees: Patrick Andrews, Terri Cioppa, Rocky Divoll, Sandy Divoll, Diane Haight, Marque Moffett, Tracy Orkin, Becky Pace, Sara Richman.

Absent: Parker O'Mara

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm by President Marque. The agenda was approved with a motion by Tracy and seconded by Pat. The minutes of the October meeting were approved with a motion by Sandy and seconded by Sara.

Director's Report—The Library Construction Grant has been awarded with a 25/75 match so our Library received \$12,655. At the time the construction project begins, 90% of the grant will be awarded with the remaining 10% received at the conclusion of the construction. Becky is contacting the contractors who were going to complete the projects in 2022. Since the project will not begin until spring 2023, she is asking if they are interested in doing this construction and making a new bid since costs have increased in this period of time.

The water back flow testing, as required by the Town of Peru, was completed by Bob's Instant Plumbing. Rocky will contact a different fire extinguisher company to complete this testing. Stacey prepared a circulation report for the Board comparing quarterly numbers for 2020, 2021 and 2022. The numbers for 2022 indicate that the total borrowers are almost at the level prior to COVID.

Library programs are beginning again with a Preschool program on Wednesday mornings for one hour. The Literacy Volunteers are again tutoring with English as a Second Language students. The Library Book Club met recently in person for the first time in over one year. The current Art Show, on exhibit until the end of November, is also an event indicating the return of the Library from the pandemic period.

There was a workshop about learning entitled "Zentangle" which is a drawing process held with 10 people in attendance. The cost of the workshop was \$40 per person with the total of \$400 donated to the Library. The licensed instructor was paid \$250 from grant funds

Each Board member is required to complete Sexual Harassment Training in 2022. Marque sent a link to the online training course.

In 2023, each Board member will be required to attend 2 hours of Continuing Education through a variety of workshops being offered. Becky will send a list of workshops occurring for the next month.

President's Report—A letter was received from Jan Washburn, who recently retired as a substitute librarian at our Library, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to be at the Peru Library and thanking the Board for her gift.

Marque also explained that Shelley has been dealing with a serious situation so providing our monthly financial reports has been difficult. Becky said Shelley seemed to be feeling a little better.

Treasurer's Report—The balances for the accounts are checking--\$8,496.36, money market--\$51,664.73 and savings--\$381.78. After consulting with TD Bank, Sara suggested we close the savings account and deposit those funds into the money market account. She will complete this transfer at the Bank. The third check for 2022 from the Town of Peru has been received.

Building/Maintenance Report—Becky asked if Rocky could repair some loose cables on the solar panels before the arrival of any snow that might dislodge any panels. Also Becky will again contact the Nuisance Wildlife Control company about returning to finish repairing the hole on the chimney. At this time the company has not been paid for their services.

Old Business—The Board had discussed opening a free Zoom account for the Library to be available for Library activities. Each free session is for 40 minutes with the option of closing that session and beginning another session of 40 minutes. The link for the account would be kept at the Library. A motion was made by Pat and seconded by Sandy to set up the Zoom account. The motion passed.

New Business—No report.

Library Moment—Becky had a pile of “antique” books on display near the Library entrance, and when she picked one up to look at it, a postcard (about the size of a current I Phone) fell out. The card was addressed to “Mr. Wills, Cape Vincent, NY” with a note on the left corner “Boat Builder”. The card, written in pencil, was dated September 24th, 1912. Apparently library patrons will leave an array of items in books when they are returned. Recently there was a news article about a librarian in Los Angeles who has discovered many unusual items in returned books and has a display of many of them.

The dates for the next two meetings are December 7th and January 4th which will also be the Annual Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm with a motion by Pat and seconded by Rocky.