**Franklin Public Library**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**January 8, 2018**

**Present**:  Sandi Brandfonbrener, Monique Doyle, Kathleen Gerwatowski, Doug Newton and Suzanne Stilgoe of the Board, and Library Director Felicia Oti.

**Call to Order**:  Monique called the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

**Public Comment**:  None

**Minutes**:  The minutes from the November meeting were approved as amended.

**Report of the Board Members**:

**Monique:** Monique reported that the South Windsor, Connecticut recreation center has a coin funnel which collects coins for a cause. The children enjoy watching the coins travel downward in a circular motion until they disappear. This might be an opportunity for the Franklin Public Library to collect funds for books which would be fun for kids. The School Street entrance might be an ideal location for such an attraction.

The December book sale yielded $1482 which was quite satisfactory considering it was the first book sale in the reopened library. The next book sale is January 20th.

Monique wished to congratulate Caleigh Keating on all the wonderful programming she has developed. She has done fabulous work engaging the young people.

**Kathleen:**Kathleen suggested that the Library offer board games for circulation. She provided an article from Library Journal which suggests the most popular games for all ages. Kathleen also wondered about the feasibility of purchasing the Amazon Echo for the young adult area. Young people enjoy asking “Alexa” questions such as the weather and who wrote a particular book.  The Board advised that Alexa’s ability to purchase items should be deactivated.

**Doug:**On National Public Radio, it was reported that the Los Angeles Public Library is eliminating overdue fines.  Another library system offers a credit on overdue fines for each book read.  Felicia acknowledged that the town was not yet prepared to consider waiving overdue fines.

The Computer & Internet Policy was considered and a motion to accept the policy was approved.

**Library Director**:

The Community Outreach Librarian position has been re-posted. Two applications have been received. Regarding the status of the punch list, the construction site committee has not met due to the holidays and the weather. They are scheduled to meet tomorrow and Felicia will report at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed the tentative draft of the invitation for the volunteer brunch. The brunch will be held on January 27, 2018.

Felicia and Doug attended the Friends of Franklin Library meeting. At this meeting a discussion of the brick fundraiser ensued regarding when the sale should conclude. In addition, because the Town By-Laws prohibit authors from selling their books at their visits, Felicia suggested a solution of having the Friends of Franklin Library purchase books in advance from a bookseller such as Barnes & Noble. Any books not purchased at the author‘s visit could be returned to the bookstore.

The archive shelving was installed on Friday. The Benjamin Franklin books will be scheduled to arrive in the near future.

**Next meeting**: The next meeting will be held on February 12, 2018.

**Topics for next meeting:**

At the next meeting we will receive an update on the volunteer brunch and the meeting room policy. We will also discuss the punch list, community outreach position, and the Fy19 budget.

**Adjournment**:  The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gerwatowski

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