Franklin Public Library

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2020

**Present**: Sandi Brandfonbrener, Monique Doyle, Kathleen Gerwatowski, Amanda Rabbitt, Barbara Steele of the Board, and Library Director Felicia Oti. Monique Doyle arrived late. Charleen Belcher and Ginette Preto were absent.

**Call to Order**: Sandi called the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes:** The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

**Report of the Board Members:**

**Kathleen:** Kathleen shared that the Norfolk Public Library offers delivery service, although the Library is open. Felicia reported that Franklin Public Library does provide delivery service to nursing homes. In January the Franklin Public Library may consider this option if the library has not reopened.

**Amanda:** Amanda asked if Caleigh, the Youth Services Librarian, might consider offering an online virtual art show for the youth services group.

**Mission & Vision Statements:** Felicia provided a draft of the Library’s community vision, library vision and library mission. She also provided the updated Values & Guiding Principles. Felicia shared the survey results again. The community is very satisfied with the Library. However, there is still a disconnect with the services the Library provides. We need to brainstorm about new ideas for sharing this information besides the newspapers and social media.

Sandi suggested that Felicia gather the staff’s perspective on the goals and objectives and share it with the Board. Barbara suggested that the Franklin Public Library find out what the schools need from us. Caleigh has been meeting with the schools and day care centers. There has been a huge outreach. We want to be in the community and increase our visibility. We want to identify what kinds of collaboration works. We will resume regular meetings with the schools to see where we can benefit them and serve them better.

The Board reviewed the Values & Guiding Principles and made some revisions. Amanda sent the Board her changes for review. We will discuss them at the January meeting.

**Reopening plans:** The plan to reopen after Thanksgiving had to be tabled due to rising Covid rates. Curbside pick-up will continue. We will revisit in January when all part-timer staff have returned. Weeding is continuing because the library is running out of space. The staff is trying to determine the needs in the collection. Usage patterns are being studied.

**Restoration:** The employees of the painting restoration company have been suffering from Covid. This is the reason why they have not been able to begin the work. When the employees are well again, the work will begin.

**Franklin Library Association and the Friends of Franklin Library:** Scott Nolan recently notified Felicia that the Franklin Library Association approved the $46,624 to digitize the Franklin List of Residences from 1884 to 2017. Felicia also attended a Friends of Franklin Library meeting and requested $5000 for craft supplies for at home projects. They will consider her request.

DCU donated $5000 to the Franklin Public Library for unrestricted use. Felicia will save the money until the spring when programming begins in earnest.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on January 25, 2021.

**Agenda for next month:** At the next meeting we will review the strategic plan, update the Values & Guiding Principles, receive a reopening update, and learn the aspirational goals from the library staff. We may also discuss possible questions for the June library survey.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gerwatowski

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