**Franklin Public Library**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**December 5, 2022**

**Present**: Charleen Belcher, Kathleen Gerwatowski, Amanda Rabbitt, Barbara Steele, Alison Wallace of the Board, and Library Director Felicia Oti.

**Call to Order**: Charleen called the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**: None

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

**Report of the Board Members:**

**Barbara**: Barbara arrived at the library this morning at 9:30 a.m. to pick up a “take and make” craft kit which were released this morning beginning at 9:00 a.m. There were none remaining. The Board suggested various strategies such as showing a library card to receive one. For the benefit of the community, going forward only one kit per person per card will be allowed.

**Kathleen**: Kathleen attended a watercolor painting event at the library with Sharon Carloni on November 6th. Sharon was very organized and provided good instructions to the twelve people in attendance. She was very supportive of each person’s talents. The attendees were pleased with their artwork. Next year, Sharon may increase the workshops to twice per month.

Kathleen also shared the invitation of a virtual authors’ event through Millis Public Library. Felicia explained that Franklin Public Library provides a link to similar events.

**Amanda:** Amanda expressed congratulations on the Diwali event. She noted that it was well-organized and executed. The event was “absolutely packed” and everyone appeared to be having a good time.

**Charleen:** Charleen attended the Painting with Denise event on November 19th. She signed up on the first day and was placed on the wait list. A lot of people were no-shows. Only 14 showed up out of the 25 people who signed up. The Board discussed how to handle this challenge as it prevents those on the waitlist from attending.

Charleen attended the November Friends of Franklin Library meeting. The Friends were pleased with the response at the Community Health Fair. A monthly membership drive will begin in February.

Charleen officially welcomed Alison Wallace back to the Franklin Public Library Board of Directors.

**Library Director’s report:** Felicia reported that Kim has received 12 applications to be ESL tutors. The training will begin in January. Several students have signed up for ESL tutoring. The library will also promote the program in other communities.

VITA, the tax assistance program is progressing well. Felicia put out a call for volunteers and was very impressed with the response. Some of the volunteers are also helping with the same program at the Senior Center. The IRS provides the training on the software.

The Franklin Library Association has voted to dissolve. On December 14th they will present the remaining $70K in their coffers to the Franklin Public Library for preservation and conservation. The funds will go toward the restoration of the reading room murals.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on January 23, 2023.

**Agenda for next month:** At the next meeting we will review the “Guidelines for Use of the Library” policy, receive ESL and VITA updates, and a programs and services update.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gerwatowski