



Bradford Area PUBLIC LIBRARY

March 18, 2024

Bradford Area Public Library Board convened on March 18th at 5:00 PM. Present were Amy Fox, Rebecca Feightner, Colette Roessler, Katie Caruso, Matt Mongillo, and Dara Signor via phone.

There were corrections from the last board meeting – the 12% mentioned in the discussion related to the state stipulation that our library must spend 12% of operating costs on library materials. E-rate pertained to bids for technological upgrades, such as servers and switches.

State aid of \$83,795 has arrived. Our quarterly endowment funding from PNC was received in the amount of \$15,200. We will alternate the PNC endowment fund disbursement with the Northwest endowment account disbursement this year so funding will be received every 6 weeks, instead of once every 12 weeks from both accounts. Total expenses were \$45,249.57. We are about \$6,000 ahead of budget.

The E-rate update stated we are moving ahead with the request to the federal government. It will involve replacing the switches, upgrading software and firewalls. We will be reimbursed 85% of the total costs. Ryan Walb was the only person to respond to the RFP. Beckie stated he tracks warranties, service and ensures we get brand new machines, not refurbished.

We received the United Way Annual grant for \$3,000. We will purchase a large screen smart TV which can be moved from room to room. The total costs will be around \$4,000.

A Walmart grant for \$1,000 was received. This will be used to buy 6-10 iPads, primarily for the teens, but others as well.

There is no word on the McKean County Commissioner's Grant, wherein we asked for 3 AWE computers for children with no internet access. These would be for primary age.

We received a Vanguard unrestricted grant for \$ 1,000.

Adult programming started a Fiber Arts program that is enjoying good participation. Bernie Picklo and Perry Ground each presented programs on the upcoming solar eclipse. The programs provided unique perspectives (science and Native American culture) and garnered good attendance. In Children's programming, Bonnie Leposa is doing a program called Book to Movie for intermediate level students where she reads a book aloud, and at the completion, shares the movie version. She is also working on a home school program.

In facilities, Matt said the HVAC filters should be changed twice a year. He is also working on the perimeter lights to be replaced with new batteries.

A question came up about the board being eligible for training.

The Policy Committee presently consists of Beckie, Brandy, and Amy. The Community Relations Committee currently consists of Collette, Dara, and Amy.

A Fund-Raising committee needs to be organized. Katie Caruso agreed to be the Chair. She presented an idea for a fund raiser working with Small Town Boutique for a fashion show in the late summer or early fall. We could highlight back-to-school fashions. Another suggestion was for a girl's night out at the Bradford Club involving a fashion show. The cost would be \$30.00 which includes your ticket to get in and food.

Another book sale was mentioned to raise revenue. The patron drive is already in the mail.

The library card issuance has gone up by 40-41 new cards for the month.

We are getting good feedback on the new website. People are commenting about the website for the library, and how useful it has become. Thanks to Janelle!

We were adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jane Bowes

Secretary