Board of Trustees
of the Blauvelt Free Library
January 28, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by President Michael Andrea.

PRESENT: Kerry Beckmann, Maria Ceci, Debbie Gallagher, Lisa Honig-Andrea, Kathleen Lacker, Claire Morrissey, Sal Pagnani, Joan Ready, Alice Ryan, Donald Syko, and Maria Valentino.

EXCUSED ABSENCE: Dan Danner

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Motion to accept the minutes of the November 26, 2024 meeting, with amendments, was made by K. Beckmann, and seconded by Kathleen Lacker. Motion passed 7-0. Sal Pagnani abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Joan Ready reported. Complete Treasurer's report is attached for November and December, 2024. Board members asked questions regarding some of the line items and J. Ready explained in detail. Sal Pagnani discussed the income vs. expenses through December, 31, 2024. Board discussion ensued.

Motion to accept the November, 2024 Treasurer's report was made by Sal Pagnani, and seconded by Kathleen Lacker. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept the December, 2024 Treasurer's report was made by Kerry Beckmann, and seconded by Sal Pagnani. Motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Claire Morrissey reported. The current energy supplier, Dream Energy, provided a contract for the period of 3/1/2025-2/28/2026. Board discussion ensued.

Motion to accept the Dream Energy Contract was made by Donald Syko, and seconded by Debbie Gallagher. Motion passed unanimously.

The 259 Funding is moving forward by the SOCSD libraries for 2025. Only 25 signatures per library are required to move ahead. Board discussion ensued. The review of the databases and periodicals has been conducted and we have eliminated underutilized items, which will save the library approximately $12,000 per year. They will continue to monitor the usage of the databases we have. Our current elevator maintenance company will no longer provide phone monitoring of phone lines so we will look into Champion Elevators to see what they offer. Board discussion ensued. We received an estimate in the amount of $1,680 from Valentine Electric for updating of the overhead lighting in the Children's room. They also gave us an estimate in the amount of $1,220 to install one main light switch for all the various lights in the lower-level storage room. Board discussion ensued regarding alternative lighting for the storage room. Mike's A-1 Handyman performed several jobs on January 22nd. The heat in the upstairs offices is not working and the installer is no longer in business. We contacted Berry Burners in Nyack to inspect and advise what our options are for repairing the unit. They came in and fixed the issue this week. Claire Morrissey distributed a comparison of periodicals were across the board for December 2023 vs. December 2024. Monthly attendance for December 2023 was 2,034 and 25,596 for the year. December 2024 was 1,906 and 27,396 for the year. Claire Morrissey reviewed the December stats with regards to sessions, signatures and number of patrons.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:

Alice Ryan reported that they are making some progress with membership. They will hold a High Tea on March 8th. Alice is also working on a culinary event to be held on May 7th. The Community Garage Sale Roundup sale will be held on June 7th and 8th. Board discussion ensued.

OLD BUSINESS:

Eagle Scout Project On-Site Dedication – Mike Andrea advised that James Burns had raised a more money that was needed for his project so he donated $258 to the library. The Court of Honor was a wonderful event where he thanked the library. Lisa Honig-Andrea asked if we could get a quote to install sprinklers by the site so the plants can be watered regularly.

Lion's Club Electric Board – Kerry Beckmann advised that the Lion's club is still waiting for estimates.

259 School Funding Proposal by SOCSD Libraries – Discussed in the Director's Report.

Energy Supplier – Discussed in the Director's Report.

Periodical and Database – Discussed in the Director's Report.

Staff Fire Safety Training – Claire Morrissey is waiting for the fire department across the way to get back to her.

NEW BUSINESS:

RCLS Training – Mike Andrea advised that Trustees should have received email notifications about training earlier this month. Claire Morrissey will send the email she received to the Trustees.

Upcoming Library Fundraiser – Claire Morrissey advised that in February we will have a *WHY I LOVE MY LIBRARY* Friends of the Library fundraiser. Mike Andrea asked the Trustees if they recall the library having fundraisers in the past. Board discussion ensued. Kerry Beckmann advised that there is a company that will come in and pick up books and send us a percentage from their sales. Claire Morrissey indicated that we are on the list with A Better World Depository for the spring and we will get a percentage back from the sale.

Community Garage Sale – Discussed in the Director's Report.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONAL ITEMS:

New Elevator Maintenance Company - Discussed in the Director's Report.
Review of Proposal from Valentine Electric - Discussed in the Director's Report.
Handyman Work - Discussed in the Director's Report.
Heating in Upstairs Storage Area - Discussed in the Director's Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

A motion for adjournment of the Public meeting, and go into Executive Session, was made at 7:42 PM by Kerry Beckmann, and seconded by Sal Pagnani. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 7:00 PM.