

Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library
Minutes March 10th, 2020
Lambertville Free Public Library
6 Lilly St, Lambertville, NJ 08530 7PM

The meeting of the Trustees of the Lambertville Free Public Library was called to order at 7:05 PM by Matt Larkin. In addition to Mr. Larkin, present were Trustees, Paul Hamilton, Stephanie Olmer, Amy Connely, Evan Straley, Children's Librarian Jennifer Sirak, and Library Director Harold Dunn. Absent was Jacqueline Sornstein.

In compliance with the open public meeting act, it was announced that this was the March meeting which had been published in *The Democrat* and filed with the City Clerk for posting on the bulletin board located in City Hall.

Presentation of the Minutes: Minutes from the February 11, 2020 meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Amy Connely and seconded by Paul Hamilton, the Board unanimously approved the February 11, 2020 minutes as amended to reflect the five-year plan timeline. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

Presentation of the Treasurer's Report: On a motion by Matt Larkin and seconded by Paul Hamilton the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's reports and authorized the Treasurer to pay the bills as presented for February. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

Paul Hamilton researched tax auditor options. Supplee, Clooney, and Company would charge \$2,500 to audit and \$850 to file, bringing the total to \$3,350. Mercadian would charge \$5,000 to audit and \$1,500 to file, bringing the total to \$6,500. On a motion by Matt Larkin and seconded by Paul Hamilton, the Board unanimously approved to choose Supplee, Clooney, and Company to complete the tax audit. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Paul Hamilton and seconded by Amy Connely, the Board unanimously approved Matt Larkin as a signatory on all financial accounts. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

Correspondence: A letter of interest from Dave Ringer to fill Emily Carone's seat was presented to Stephanie Volmer to provide Mayor Fahl.

Amy Connely spoke with city government and confirmed that the library grant project not moving forward in April due to time constraints. The second round timeline to file for the grant is TBD. City will match potential grant funding.

Emily Carone has resigned.

Director's Report: Attached. Library Director Harold Dunn intends to resign in May of 2020.

Children's Library Report: Attached. Successful Thomas the Tank Day (183 attendees)

Old Business: Evan Straley suggested edits to the five-year plan. Amy Connelly will review edits. On a motion by Amy Connelly and seconded by Paul Hamilton, the Board unanimously approved the Five Year Plan as amended. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

New Business: On a motion by Amy Connelly and seconded by Stephanie Volmer, the Board unanimously decided to request mayoral approval to increase the number of seats on the board from 7 to 9. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

On a motion by Matt Larkin and seconded by Stephanie Volmer, the Board unanimously approved Amy Connelly as the Board's Vice President. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

Public Comment: Public attendees included: Abigail Meletti, Chris Meletti, John Hencheck, Barbara Karen Hencheck, Harriet Schwartz, Shirah Gray, Dave Ringer, and Karen Riedeburg.

1. Friends of the Lambertville Library proposed the Board use the Friends as advocates to protect Library infrastructure. Library Director Harold responded that the Library maintains paint on the interior and exterior of the building and replaces carpets. He further explained that the City agreed to maintain the grounds. The Friends also suggested the Library hire a painter to remediate exterior lead paint by encapsulation with latex paint. Member of the public Dave Ringer, an architect with 50 years of experience, confirmed the viability of this option.
2. Abigail Meletti questioned how much input from the public was received regarding redevelopment of the library. Amy Connelly explained that she and Library Director Harold Dunn met with the city architect to explain the library's current collection, programs, and operations as those factors would inform the architect's initial drawings that were presented at the Community Development Fair earlier in the year.
3. Chris Meletti highlighted the need for a "process for discussion" to include the public regarding redevelopment.
4. Harriet Schwartz voiced that 0.7 or 0.8 square feet per citizen is the required amount of space for a municipal library.
5. Shirah Gray asked what the Friends of the Lambertville Library would need for a letter of intent, explained that the FOLL are working on the organization's bylaws, and expressed the FOLL's

desire to coordinate more strongly with the board. She asked who should be contacted to remove the Acme Screening Room as the expressed holder of the Friends' non-profit organization from Hunterdon County websites.

6. Most members of the public expressed disapproval of the City's plan for redevelopment.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Evan Straley, seconded by Paul Hamilton, to adjourn at 9:10 PM. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED. Jacqueline Sornstein was not present for the vote.

Respectfully submitted by Evan Straley.