

Library board meeting September 19, 2023 5:30 pm

In attendance: Jean Dexheimer, Staci King, Sean McPherson, Vince Neal, Staci Ross, Jordan Feagley, Colleen Denne

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Board President, Jean Dexheimer

The minutes from the June meeting were read. There was a motion by Jordan to accept the minutes as read and 2nd by Staci K. All were in favor.

Library statistics for August were handed out and gone over. We again acknowledged the growth of the library in comparison to 2022.

We discussed the need to plan for the 125th anniversary next year in September. Colleen shared a list of ideas written by Cassandra, a part time library aide. The ideas were:

Stairway shadow box- pins, declaration of (Library) Independence, "Then and Now" -- photos of staff, most popular book from each decade (Bonus if we have it in the collection- What did Wilkesburg look like when we opened- photos; Kids Activity- What do you think libraries will have 125 years from now?/ What do you think libraries will look like in 125 years; Adult activity- Library memories board; Contest? Who can check out the oldest book that month/time period; Display case- vintage library cards, card catalogue through the years; Found in A7 003 of PA COL- Staff photos- 1917 and 1960s

The board added the following ideas: food trucks, jumpy house for kids, fire truck, police officer and a K-9, displaying the library of things, petting zoo, requiring a library card for participation in the event, but having one or 2 laptops right there to sign people up for a card, library instruction on what you can do with your card including e-resources. We will all think more about this for the next meeting then possibly start a real planning session.

Colleen informed everyone she is currently working on her budget requests. She is asking for salary increases for both the director and the children's library manager which are the only 2 positions that are not union. She has told the borough manager and the head of the finance department that she supports a wage analysis of all library positions because they are under paid in comparison with other departments. She is also asking for a new part time archival position to properly catalog and store the entire PA room collection.

Colleen updated the board on the process of applying for the RAD grant to re-do the adult room. Colleen will attend the Infrastructure and Blight committee meeting with a RAD board member and an ACLA representative to help present the grant opportunity to council to convince them to approve applying for the grant.

There was a discussion of patrons with large billed accounts. Colleen said Einetwork is purging old bills from the system and is concerned at how much in materials is lost. She will be sending this information via email to start brain storming how to solve this problem. Colleen believes the amount is larger than an acceptable loss of doing business. There is also a committee looking at this county wide.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 pm. Jordan made the motion, 2nd by Staci K. and all were in favor.