

The regular scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Monroe Public Library was held on February 18, 2014 at 8:30 am at the Hughes Library.

Present: William Weitzmann, John Field, Stan Miles, Tony Stevens-Arroyo, Carol Pooley, Seamus McGraw, Charles Green

Absent: Gerard Geiger, Phyllis Gibson

Staff: B Keiser, K Rustici

Guests:

The meeting was called to order at 8:37 by J Field.

J Field accepted the minutes of the Jan 21, 2014 meeting, as presented.

President's Report –The storm grate in front of the employee entrance is in need of replacement and is currently being taken care of. The Friends are sponsoring a cookbook fund raiser and the library needs recipes. Smithfields new branch project is progressing, the carpet should be put in soon, the painting is done and we are waiting are occupancy permit.

Treasurer's Report –W Weitzmann is concerned that the Zeigler fund is paying 200,000.00 a year for the Smithfields new branch over a 5 year period, taking that account down to \$0. He began meetings with Kevin Yurko, WSM financial consultant, the finance committee and staff to work on a recovery strategy so that the library will still have funds after our lease is up.

J Field accepted the Treasurer's Report.

C Pooley/A Stevens-Arroyo moved to approve the bills as presented and carried.

A Stevens-Arroyo has mentioned that the Board of Trustees will now have to focus on fund-raising on a regular basis.

Buildings and Equipment - Storm grate is being replaced as a priority.

Publicity & Community Relations –A Stevens-Arroyo will prepare a statement for our new Smithfields branch “Grand Opening”. This will be a well announced and publicized event.

Policy and Operations –No report

Personnel- No report

Strategic Planning – There is a meeting scheduled for 9:30am in the Board Room, March 4th 2014, to interview another planning consultant.

Director’s Report – Highlights from B. Keiser’s report:

Signage ordered for the Smithfields branch. Pictures of the build out progress of the new location are posted on the library's facebook page.

The directors of the Associated Libraries of Monroe County agreed to move ahead with more digital resources with county coordination funds. With the support of the Foxhowe group from Buck Hill we are planning a One County, One Book read of the *Phantom Tollbooth*. The Buck Hill Skytop Arts Festival will also provide summer reading programs again this year to all the public library locations, along with additional funding to enrich collections.

At this writing, we are *still* waiting for the PA state aid to transfer to operating accounts.

Monthly use statistics for print, non-print and digital resources totaled 32,839; door count was 26,053. AARP conducted training for the tax preparation volunteers who began their service Feb 3 at locations in Middle Smithfield and Pocono townships as well as two days a week at Hughes.

The bookmobile is back on the road with an ambitious two week schedule of school and community stops. The political reorganization of Pocono Township is causing some concern about the library's long term ability to provide programming at that location, but we are watching the calendar and making sure we have our reservations posted.

The director visited exhibits at the annual mid-winter American Library Association Conference held in Philadelphia this year. Several vendors patiently listened to concerns about digital access, integrated library system upgrades and The High Cost of Databases.

Old Business –The Monroe Optical project has been approved, our attorney has sent notification to their attorney.

New Business – None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 am on a motion by W Weitzmann/A Stevens-Arroyo and carried