

Ivoryton Library Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting of 1/24/23

Attendance: Louisa Ketron, Carol Sullivan, Michael Lennon, Charlene Doane, Leslie Barlow, Sharon Lewis, James Spallone, Melissa Ozols, Elizabeth Alvord (Director)

Nov. minutes were approved. Moved by M. Lennon, seconded by L. Ketron

2023 Goals Reviewed by board president S. Lewis

Promote collection as community resource, like mission statement

Increase use of library by outside groups. 6 used in 2022, goal of 10 in 2023

L. Barlow's book group is an example

Community use of space

Increase number of library sponsored events

Emphasize budget efficiencies

Take actions toward goals

Review performance

Increased circulation 18K in 2022, 20K in 2023

Historic numbers show trend up

Digital up, physical down

Library service center in Middletown. Circulates to libraries for 3 mos. Large print, kids books

Ensure availability and continuity of local history room resources

E. Alvord indexing. 60% is indexed. Gotten training. Needs time to focus on project.

Capital investments, building and grounds preserve, maintain

Generate \$9K plus, report to town

Employee engagement and retention

Specific action items in package, on website. Available to board members on separate board pages

Will review progress during year

Director's Report

Upcoming programs

Adult craft event

Paul Beckman author

Using EventBrite for online registration

Children's Room Take Child to Library week working with Essex Library

Ivoryton Congregation Church \$3,088 draw down on bequest this year

Donations: Curtis/Thrall \$2K; Mary Russell and Jeff Mehler \$1000; Mary Coolidge \$400; 2 end of year membership donations

Hired handyman. Lots of small jobs need to be done. \$250 minimum. ThatFrenchGuy

Survey: E. Alvord working on with S. Lewis

Dropped Sunday, open earlier on basis on survey after COVID

Time for another survey. Some potential questions: When last visited, visit more, problems, if could wave magic wand. In Essex Events direct to web site. Will be on web site.

Board members urged to review and comment

Conflict for parking on Weds during theater season

Sunday hours. Would be nice to be open 1-4. No one willing to work Sunday

Switched from Eversource to Direct Energy . Eversource: 12.25 per kw/h to 23.10 per kw/h

Direct Energy fixed rate 15.89

No penalty to switch plan or cancel

Treasurer

Highlights

Met at Essex Financial yesterday

\$5000 to Sullivan re back yard

Town appropriation: \$60K

Mike at Essex Financial expects market to be erratic

\$30K invest and watch

John Heiser resignation from investment committee

Acknowledge J. Heiser

Replace: Bylaws board members and non board members

Meets 2x a year, extend past board term

Mike Lennon agreed to take J. Heiser place

M. Ozols moved, C. Doane second, approved on voice vote

Prior to next meeting reception to honor J. Heiser; invite family; donate book in his name and gift card

Trivia Night

C. Doane

March 4

Open at 7

Game at 7:30

Tasks need volunteers

C. Doane took down volunteers

All bring dessert

Pretzels and popcorn

No wine needed

2 cases of beer needed

John bar tend

Sell tickets online

Ticket price discussion

Free trivia now at bars, etc.

\$15 table of 8 is \$100

Tables and chairs. C. Doane to count at meeting house

Need to take off site

Tea cup "door prize"

Fund Raising Committee

L. Ketron

Various organizations worried about whether to plan spring fundraisers COVID aftermath

Train?

No sense of planning if people still skittish

Large building at RR station

See what happens in April

Quilt raffle in fall

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Discussion re spending money Ivoryton Cong. Church

Eliminate outdoor stairs and make deeper ones. Shallower. George Penniman former board member wants to help. Will measure, look. Called today.

Can do ramp, but not ADA compliant

Stairs with railing

Make turn near end of building

Simple to do

5 steps now

6 inch step, non slip

Parents, persons with walking stick improvement

Grant opportunity \$10K

\$5-\$10K, likely \$7,500

40% materials/60% labor

Safe

G. Penniman sensitive to historic building

Discussion re old "furnace room" making usable room

\$50K talk about room

Will draw something up

Next meeting will have something to consider

Patio area work

Notice Board Ivoryton Alliance is done

E. Alvord: attach to new steps/porch

Waiting for grant

Take notice board now and hang on side of porch; temporary location

Covered area.

Talk to G. Penniman about program room

Foundation repair?

Stone missing on corner, small job

Nominating Committee

C. Doane term is up

HR

Nothing to report

New Business

None

Adjourn