

Lyons Regional Library District Board of Trustees

March - Board Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2021, 5:38 PM

Zoom Meeting (COVID-19)

Attendees: Bill Palmer (President), Janet Corson-Rikert (VP/Secretary), Erin Biesiada (Treasurer), Ryan Chiachiere, David Selden; Kara Bauman (Director), Suzanne Milani (Friends of the Library)

1. **Open Board Meeting** at 5:38 pm
2. **Public input** - none
3. **Check-in with Board Members**
4. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Content
 - 1) Minutes Board Meeting 2021.02.16
 - 2) Minutes Board Retreat 2021.02.20
 - b. Request for items to be removed
 - c. Approval of remaining items – **VOTE**; Motion to approve by David; seconded by Erin; **Approved (5-0)**
 - d. Discussion of removed items or re-assignment to a spot later in Agenda
5. **Library Director's Report**
 - a. Open now by appointment – busy as soon as publicized, capped at 5 for now (roughly 50%), all appreciative
 - b. New Youth Librarian Becki is doing well, has already posted virtual baby and family story hours and plans middle grade book talks during spring break
 - c. Dana is starting an after-school teen coding club aimed at 13-16 yo's
 - d. Library Associate position posted and mentioned in Kara's Redstone column
 - e. Kara, Vicky, Bill and Leigh participated in initial meeting of 'Exploring Race and Privilege' Steering Committee – Kara briefly discussed tension for libraries between values of intellectual freedom and social justice; grant request submitted to support work. Discussed how LRLD could help parents create teaching opportunities related to this issue.
 - f. Kara and Becki active in CAL committees
 - g. Physical circulation~ same as 2016, even with varying degrees of closure, e-circulation continues high
 - h. Audit update – field work in progress, on track for May presentation to Board, July deadline for state
6. **Friends Report**
 - a. Successful 2/11 trivia night, exceeded target fundraising. Planning repeat ? in June.
 - b. Discussion of restocking books on sale shelf.
 - c. New membership cycle starting Nov. 1. Hope to contribute \$'s toward racial justice-related work.
 - d. David will send Friends president, Leslie Reynolds a message re Board member recruitment.
7. **Foundation Report** – none.
8. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Committee Objectives – Bill requests that committee descriptions be updated if needed.
 - b. Communications/Community Relations, Bill Palmer
 - 1) Article sent to Recorder, not yet published, covering take-and-make kits, Becki as new Youth Librarian, Ursa Libris. Kara reaching out to Nichols Associates (donor wall) and LAHC re name plate for sculpture.

- 2) Bill has contacted Jeannie Moore, LCF President, and plans to follow up with other community groups. Suggests individual Board members serve as liaisons to individual groups, even if just checking minutes. (Leigh - fire district, Bill – LCF). Bill will circulate a list for Board members to sign up.
- c. Building, Ryan Chiachiere
 - 1) Solar Project – Three qualified responses to RFP, all to be interviewed 3/18-19. Some offer more technical detail, some more big picture. No consensus yet.
 - 2) Will need special Board meeting 3/30 to approve vendor before April meeting – set 3/30 for brief meeting.
- d. Finance, Erin Biesiada
 - 1) 2021 February Financials – all looking fine.
- e. Policy, Leigh Williams – Leigh not here. Kara and Leigh to discuss.
 - 1) Leigh not present. He and Kara to meet to discuss. Financial policy needs addition of capital and operating reserve section.
- f. HR/Board Development
 - 1) David is in the process of recruiting potential Board candidates – maybe a school rep? diversity?
 - 2) Board self-evaluation planned for later this spring
 - 3) Talking w Crystal about orientation experience, as well as Board training.
- g. NEW Planning Committee – may be helpful on ad hoc basis when Kara feels timing good for her and staff to move ahead

9. Other Business

- a. Dr. Suess: <https://theweek.com/articles/969777/complicated-quagmire-dr-seuss> (discussed above)
- b. Amazon e-books: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/03/10/amazon-library-ebook-monopoly/> Amazon doesn't allow their e-books to be held in library collections. Also high charges from other publishers.
- c. Strategic Plan: if time, watch Short Takes video (not done)

10. Calendar of Upcoming Events

- a. Review 2021 calendar
- b. Reminder to keep vacation calendar updated
- c. Special Brief Board meeting to approve solar vendor March 30 at 5:30 pm
- d. Next regular Board meeting April 20, 2021

11. Adjournment at 7:05 pm