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**Easton Public Library
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
Zoom Meeting (recorded)
January 4, 2021**

Present: V. Rozo, A. Burke, L. Dollard, S. Pearlman, P. Wizda and L. Zaffino

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm
2. Minutes from December 7, 2020, meeting were amended with a correction to the Treasurer's Report to reflect that the full balance of the Morgan Stanley account had been transferred to the People's Bank account before that meeting. The minutes were then approved with a motion by Adrienne, seconded by Shari, and all were in favor.
3. Treasurer's Report: The balance of the People's Bank account has not significantly changed since the December meeting.
4. Library Director's Report: Please see attached.
5. Bills and communication: The Giving Tree campaign brought in \$640 in donations that will be used to order new materials. An end-of-year donation of \$3,000 is earmarked for the purchase of technology for the library's innovation space. The Lion's Club Low Vision Center donated a large-print keyboard to the library.
6. Public Participation: June Logie and Anne Manusky were present for the meeting. June requested that when Library Board of Trustees meeting minutes are submitted to Town Hall, the Director's Report also be attached. June also voiced concern about a discussion at the Library Board's November 9 meeting with regard to the Library partnering in a program to be organized by the Easton Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, from which June recently resigned. Anne warned that programs to celebrate diversity could drive divergence and divisions in town.
7. Old Business: Required documents are being gathered to establish a new account with Vanguard in order to deposit the Library Board's funds into a short-term Treasury Bill, so there will be no need to establish a 501(c)3 organization in order to do so elsewhere.
8. New Business: Library Board Chair Veronica made a motion that the Board designate Treasurer Adrienne Burke to act on behalf of the Library Board to manage the money that the Library Board currently holds at People's Bank. Linda seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm in a motion by Veronica, seconded by Paul.

Next meeting Feb. 1, 2021

Submitted by,
Adrienne Burke

EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING – January 4, 2021
LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. During my last conversation with Dr. Bindelglass regarding the open/closed status of the Library, he put me in charge of the decision. I feel that, at this time, it is still safe to keep the Library open. I will continue to monitor and reassess the situation on a regular basis.
2. Debby Holland, Circulation Assistant, has accepted a full-time Reference Librarian position at the Bristol Public Library. Her last day here is January 8. With Dr. Bindelglass' permission, I offered the position to Kerry Santoro, Youth Services Programming Assistant, who has been furloughed since March. She accepted the position and will begin training on January 6.
3. It is time to start thinking about next year's budget. A letter was issued by the Board of Finance, asking all Town Departments to assess their spending so far this year and to communicate what they've done to cut costs. Dr. Bindelglass will be meeting with each department in January.
4. We had a very profitable Giving Tree this year. Total amount of donations was \$640.00.
5. This year's One Book/One Town Community Read is underway. The book is *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. We are working with the Easton Diversity & Inclusion Task Force (EDIT) to plan a panel discussion to discuss the themes of the book, which include racism, tolerance, and justice.
6. We are also collaborating with EDIT and the schools to host a Lawn Sign Exhibit on the Library's front lawn, beginning in early February and continuing throughout 2021. We are asking school classes and other community members to submit their favorite quotes regarding diversity in all its forms. These quotes will then be featured on the lawn signs. This exhibit is modeled after a similar one done by the Stratford Library Association.
7. We have been collaborating with the Easton Community Center and the Park & Recreation Department to host a series of upcoming winter events, including Kahoot!, Jukebox Bingo, Lip Sync Challenge, and a Comedy Night Fundraiser.
8. I have recruited 3-4 people who are interested in getting involved with reviving the Friends of the Library. I am planning to schedule a preliminary meeting with them in January.
9. Keri English-Giddes, Founder/Director of The Easton Art Center and Owner of LaLaPicasso, LLC, will host an Art Show Fundraiser in the Community Room, starting on January 25. 50% of the proceeds will go toward the Children's Expansion Project.

10. Starting in January, I am instituting an employee recognition initiative called "Caught Doing Something Good." Staff members can submit entries acknowledging colleagues' accomplishments, efforts, and acts of kindness. Each month, an entry will be drawn and that person will receive a small prize. All of the entries will be posted as well.
11. The Youth Services Department will be collaborating with the Easton Senior Center starting in January to make cards for seniors. They have also been offering take-and-make crafts.
12. Upcoming special programs include the following (all are virtual):
 - 1/7 – Pet Showcase (Gr. K-5)
 - 1/29 – Kahoot! (All Ages)
 - 1/31 – Climate Change Program (Adults)
 - 2/5 – Jukebox Bingo (All Ages)
 - 2/11 – All Things Romance! (Adults)
 - 2/25 – Family Lip Sync Challenge (All Ages)

Submitted by Lynn Zaffino
12/31/20