

APPROVED

Minutes
Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Riverhead Free Library
Thursday, March 26, 2020 - 6:15 PM

Present: John Munzel, President; Janet O'Hare, Secretary; John Rienzo, Trustee; Ruth Nelson, Trustee; Susan Bergmann, Trustee; Marilyn Banks-Winter, Trustee

Absent: Louise Wilkinson, Vice President; David Friedrich, Treasurer; Annette Totten, Trustee;

Director: Kerrie McMullen-Smith

Staff: Susan Culver and Isabelle Gonzalez

Friend: Ron Ondrovic, Vice President of the Friends of the Riverhead Library (Joined at 6:30pm)

A Special Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order on Thursday, March 26, 2020, at 6:16 PM via Zoom Conferencing.

- 03.26.20** President John Munzel made a motion to approve the agenda.
762 Susan Bergmann, moved the motion; seconded by Marilyn Banks-Winter.
Motion Carried

As a matter of practice, President John Munzel asked Marilyn Banks-Winter to second all motions hereafter therefore diminishing waiting time for a second motion.

Budget Vote & Trustee Election: Discussion regarding 2020-2021 Budget Vote scheduled for 4/7/20. Should the Budget Vote not be held for a public vote by June 30, we would then be working with the 2019/2020 Budget.

Janet O'Hare, Secretary is confident that the community will be behind the Riverhead Library and the Budget Vote will be held for a public vote.

There is a concern for the community with hardship and people losing jobs, or being out of work temporarily or being furloughed. It is a concern considering the unprecedented situation and they may not be able to afford an additional tax increase.

Regardless, if the Budget passes or not, some thoughts are there will be a change in how we allocate the funds in relation to print materials and non- print materials. With the library being closed and should it continue for a while, the online resources will be in high demand.

Period of Board Expression: The reason for this special meeting is to discuss what we are going to do with the Budget Vote and the Trustee Elections. What are the thoughts of the Board?

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Janet O'Hare, Secretary, suggested that we schedule another meeting in 2-3 weeks from now and see what the future holds and we can discuss then, right now it is a little premature, to make a decision.

Susan Bergmann, Trustee, mentioned that on the news she heard that the coronavirus has yet to peak and they are expecting that within the next two weeks it will and hopefully it will downslide and maybe then we can chart some kind of date. She also mentioned there is a SCLS Board of Trustees online meeting on April 1st at 3pm and hopefully she can get some information then and provide to the board. What I am hearing is that the schools (Riverhead) are holding their Budget Vote on June 27, 2020.

John Rienzo, Trustee, opinion is that he has seen all the editorials all over the state and all the officials and election commissioners want to postpone the village elections, and the primary elections and he does not believe we have the authority to not have the vote.

Kerrie responded, we do not have the authority to cancel the vote but we do have the authority to inform the public that we have decided not to run it because we are not open for it.

John Rienzo believes that the Governor will make some determination on these types of votes and he does not think we should make a decision today because everybody realizes that things are influx. I am sure he is aware of these items, the Elections, the School Budget Votes which are all on the same day in May, I am sure there will be a postponement as everyone is calling for it. He suggests we wait a couple days and see if Governor Cuomo comes up with some kind of resolution on the issue.

The decision does not have to be made today, according to Janet, however, John Rienzo would like to wait and leave it in the Governor's hands to see what he is going to do. John is not in favor of the option of running on the 2019/2020 Budget in 2020/2021.

On a separate note, what happens with the Trustees Vote? Does that get tabled also? Susan asked. John said the date can be set any day we want, he does not believe it requires 45 days from the Bylaws. It has to be done by July 1st.

John Munzel, President, asked Susan Bergmann to inquire with Kevin and also give us notice of that April 1st meeting as he would like to attend. It is likely some information will be made available then and we can follow up with an Emergency Board meeting the day after. The Trustees agreed that Thursday, April 2nd at 6:15pm via Zoom Conference would be feasible.

Period of Public Expression: John Munzel, President, asked Ron Ondrovic if he had any comments.

The Friends are actually working on doing a Zoom Meeting with the Photography Club. He also has some plans to upload some videos from his Travel Club and posting them on youtube.com, possibly due a zoom with that. They are trying to keep with the tines as well.

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He stated that they are not having their Board of Officers Meeting in April and they are supposed to have a Budget Vote but he is trying to work with members to have a meeting without the public and to give us authority to approve the budget. He is working on that.

Susan Bergmann, Trustee, mentioned to Ron that not all of the Friends members are receiving membership emails. John Rienzo, also indicated that he received an email but his wife who is also a member had not, in addition other members did not receive and he had to pass on the information.

Ron apologized they just went digital this past year and there may be some glitches. Some members in the Photography Club also mentioned they did not receive any emails. We will look into that.

Ron will need to check with Barbara and Linda as they manage the membership aspect of it.

Marilyn Winter asked Ron whether the Friends information was posted on the library website. Ron stated, there is a link to their site and vice versa. Ron also shares updates with Rasheima Alvarado, Program Coordinator.

Ruth Nelson, Trustee, asked what is happening with the Newsletter?

Kerrie replied, the newsletter will still be going out but it will be about half its normal size. Most programs are booked for June, a couple for May (tentatively). Different staff members are trying to secure programs. Much of the information in the newsletter will emphasize our E Resources. I am also looking to start a homebound delivery / curbside pick up program once the Library building opens again.

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There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn meeting first John Rienzo, and seconded by Mariyn Banks-Winters. **Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet O'Hare, Secretary /IS