

**EAST HADDAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**January 11, 2018**

**6:30 pm at the EHFPL Branch**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Andrea Pascal , Jane Chisholm, Bill Barney , Joanne Rocznik, John Bielot, Dawn Barlow, Janine Broe, Juliana Tryon Ranaudo

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:** Vicki Riley

**ALSO PRESENT:** Michael Gilroy

The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm. Minutes from December 14, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

**Director's Report:**

Comments made by the BOS, Board of Finance and audience of citizens at the January 8<sup>th</sup> Tri-board meeting centered around questioning the 2 existing buildings, the status of the EHFPL building transfer and the accessibility issues.

There seems to be some possible resistance from the town to accepting the EHFPL building, partially stemming from the delay in the building transfer.

*BOT Response to Director's Report:*

There is agreement that neither of the current library buildings is sufficient to serve the town. Joann pointed out that East Haddam is likely the only area town without an accessible library.

Bill proposed a PR program aimed at educating the community about what the library does and the current issues faced. John suggested presenting a cost comparison highlighting the low cost per person served when compared to other similar towns in Connecticut.

The BOT agreed that we need to see real progress on the EHFPL building transfer, especially now that it is at the forefront of public discussion. The group will work on a plan that identifies a possible long-term end goal, which is likely one new building.

The BOT members should strive to attend upcoming BOS and Board of Finance meetings.

**Committee Reports:**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

The budget has been submitted to the town and is still under review with no feedback. The only notable increase was in Shared Services. There is an increase in dues for the LION service. Dues went up due to compensations made for State reductions. There was also an increase in the CT Library Consortium dues. Barring raises, all other costs remained flat.

Bill has successfully requested that the BOT get copies of the quarterly Rathbun trust statement. This can be used to understand the status of the investment. It may also be looked at and considered to see if the Bank of America management fees are too high.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:**

No Meeting

**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:**

The committee discussed the calendar modifications and manual updates. The committee reminded the group to submit all meeting minutes in a timely fashion.

The annual assessment questionnaires will be sent to the 5 members who served in 2017.

A shared BOT Google drive was created to house all documentation in a shared location.

**Unfinished Business:**

The building transfer of the EHFPL branch is still pending and currently awaiting the attorney. Since the attorney is now local, the board hopes there will be more urgency than in the past.

**New Business:**

A one-year plan committee will be comprised of all BOT members. The first meeting is January 22 at 7pm.

Dawn moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

Our next meeting will be February 8, 2018 at the Rathbun Branch.