

## **Moon Township Library Board Minutes December 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by the President.

Present: *Pam Dilanni, Mary Ann Rafoth, Eric Fogle, Sam McCrimmon, Ted Dengel, Kathleen Emmerling Madonna, Heather Panella -library director*

Absent: *Sydney Diehl*

**Motion to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters & MTPL Board position nominations was made by Kathleen and seconded by Sam. Passed unanimously.**

Executive Session began at 6:04 PM.

**Motion to end Executive Session was made by Kathleen and seconded by Ted. Approved unanimously.**

Regular meeting resumed at 6:26 PM.

Present: *Pam Dilanni, Mary Ann Rafoth, Eric Fogle, Sam McCrimmon, Ted Dengel, Kathleen Emmerling Madonna, Heather Panella -library director*

Absent: *Sydney Diehl*

**There was no public comment.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the November meeting minutes was made by Eric, seconded by Kathleen and passed unanimously.

### **President's Report**

Pam reported on the public interest around a Book of the Day posted on the Children's Facebook Page. The Township Supervisors did invite some concerned individuals to attend the township meeting. A crisis management expert recommended by ACLA advised that we should have both staff and board representation at the upcoming meeting and ask to address the board at the beginning of the meeting. Crisis management consultant will help us craft language for that meeting. Heather also consulted with ACLA legal. Pam requested an itemized invoice from the Crisis Management Consultant. Pam reported that several events over the weekend after the Friday closure of the library occurred as planned. The most disturbing feedback occurred over the phone threatening death to librarians for choosing the children's book. Calls came from out of state with threats of violence. Pam advised Heather to keep all the documentation she could regarding accusations and threats as state licensed librarians. Much of the negative feedback is coming from out of state. Some concerns are directed specifically against the children's librarian. Her private Facebook account was compromised, probably by someone she friended; there were no comments representing the library or identifying her as a librarian. The children's librarian described her process of scheduling picture book of the day. All new picture books

have a turn as book of the day. Books are ordered from lists of recommended books from professional associations such as *School Library Journal*. We are one of 15 libraries in the county with the book that caused the concern and is available as an e-book through the Carnegie System. The book became a part of the collection in summer of 2021 and had been waiting its turn to be book of the day. Heather responded to emails that expressed thoughtful concerns and questions. The draft response was reviewed by the crisis consultant. The library staff reported that the book is in constant circulation and is often on hold. Pam closed her report concluding that we would should appoint a small group to craft a draft response for the Supervisors' meeting.

#### **Treasurer's report**

Financials are behind due to holidays but budget is trending at a surplus. We will get invoices from the crisis consultant before the end of the year. We should receive investment statements in February, 2022.

**Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Eric; seconded by Kathleen. Motion approved unanimously.**

#### **Director's Report**

Fundraising events went well, including the Winter Festival which brought in over \$1,000. End of year wrap up is on schedule.

**Motion to approve the director's report made by Ted, seconded by Eric; approved unanimously.**

#### **Committee reports**

- Personnel – Heather's 2021 evaluation is complete and just needs the President's signature.
- Finance – no report
- Building improvements – Eric reported that we will have an official meeting with the supervisors in January. RMU has been informed that we are on hold until we speak with the supervisors.
- Fundraising – no report beyond what the Director included in her report. Eric recommended a cookie recipe book for next holiday season.
- Community outreach – no report
- By-laws – no report
- Grant writing – no report
- Strategic Planning Committee – no report.

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **New Business**

1. Mary Ann made a motion that, based on discussion in Executive Session, library director Heather Panella, receive a 7% raise for 2022; Eric seconded. **The motion was approved unanimously**

2. A group including Heather, Pam, Sam, Kathleen, and Eric, were appointed to draft the statement for next Monday's Supervisors' meeting as discussed in the President's Report. Kathleen and Sam will attend the Supervisor's meeting along with Heather next Monday.

**The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, at 6:00 PM, in person at the library but with a hybrid option, for those who cannot attend physically.**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Ann and seconded by Kathleen. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.