

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Approved Minutes of April 24, 2020

Present: Dan Mongan (President), Rachel Gruzen (Treasurer), Shari Thompson (Secretary), Meredith Cairns, Brock Lownes, Lynne Weinlandt, Lauren Nichols (Director). With the library still closed on account of the coronavirus lockdown, the meeting was held via Zoom (video-conferencing) and was called to order by President Dan Mongan at 9:05 a.m.

I. Approval of Agenda. Approved without objection.

II. Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2020 Annual Meeting and Regular Meeting. Approved without objection.

III. Executive Session (as necessary). There was no need to have an Executive Session.

IV. Financial Report. Rachel Gruzen and Lauren Nichols reported that we are one-third of the way through 2020, our big expenses have been taken care of and "we can live within our means this year," but that there might be challenges and hard decisions ahead. It was agreed that for now, with there being so much uncertainty, we will wait to address our 2021 budget.

V. President's Report. Dan Mongan had nothing special to report.

VI. Director's Report. See April 2020 Director's Report, attached. Lauren Nichols reported that our library staff, as part of an effort by Suffolk County libraries, have made masks for front-line workers at Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, and using our 3-D printer donated by the Muchnic Foundation, have made face shields for the Amagansett Fire Department and EMS and for Amagansett post-office workers.

Lauren further reported that the staff is at 100% workforce reduction until May 15th, at least, but that she has been going to the library every day and is in close contact with the staff. She noted that there has been increased interest in our online programming and that "participation in our oral history project has reached record levels." Lauren noted further that our library's small size is an advantage; "we're pretty nimble," and can be ready to reopen quickly when the time comes.

VII. Secretary's Report. Shari Thompson had nothing special to report.

VIII. Trustee Reports. There were no special reports from trustees.

IX. Committee Reports.

A. Friends. Shari Thompson reported that the annual meeting of Friends from East End Libraries, which was to take place in May at the Montauk library, has been moved to September. Instead, in May, the group will meet via Zoom and/or phone. Shari will check on the date and time, and any of us who are interested are welcome to join in.

We have not heard back from Chini Alarco, of Whitmore's, about the re-landscaping

plan for the library that is being sponsored by our Friends Committee. While the re-landscaping can't be done for some time (during the lockdown, landscapers are allowed to do maintenance work but no planting), it was agreed that Lauren Nichols will email Chini to ask if she's been able to give any thought to the project.

B. Architecture. The Architectural Committee had nothing to report.

C. Mortgage Committee. The Mortgage Committee had nothing to report.

X and XI. Old Business and New Business.

A. COVID-19. Lauren Nichols reported that this summer's programs have been moved online and will be supplemented with project-based activities that can be done at home. She expects state guidelines and restrictions to be extended in two-week increments and hopes that we can offer limited service (e.g., curbside service and library visits by appointment) in May or June. She thinks we can anticipate limited service for another year or two and also anticipate changes in the way we operate and how we use our space. Lauren commended the library staff, who have been working at home, for "learning on the fly and adjusting while preparing for our changing role in the coming years." In the discussion that followed, we considered ways in which the library might maximize its resources, remain active, and respond creatively to the needs of the community, with maintenance of public health and safety as our priority.

B. Rescheduled Trustee Election. The election has again been extended, from April 18th to June 1st, and in the meantime Dan Mongan and Lynne Weinlandt, whose terms are expiring, will stay on as trustees. Lauren Nichols has been mailing ballots to those who request them, and thinks that we will have a record number of voters.

XII. Approval of Regular Bills for April. Approved without objection.

XIII. Approval of the Personnel Report. Approved without objection.

XIV. Correspondence. None.

XV. Period for Public Expression. No one from the public was present, but it was noted that the link to this board meeting is on the library's online calendar (click on Library Board Meeting).

XVI. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Next Meeting Date: Friday, May 29, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.