

## G.C. Community Library

### Board Minutes

May 10, 2023

Board Members attending: Erin Pisano, Vince DiStasi (via Zoom), Stacy Bluedorn, Heather Leskanic, George Pokrant, Liz Kingsley, Dave Kershaw, Carla Ligo, Sue Miklos (Zoom), Renee Coyne (Zoom)

Employees Attending: Heather Baker, Sean, Wendy (via Zoom)

- (1) Erin called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and opened with prayer.
- (2) Minutes from the April meeting were approved following motion by Stacy and second from George. Motion carried.
- (3) Treasurer's Report: Our bank balance is currently at \$40,988. Library received close to \$400 last week. Anticipated to be solvent thru June. Current donation total at \$26,513 since notice to community that library is struggling financially. Community support has been overwhelming, Erin said. Businesses and individuals (including children) are stepping up to make financial contributions as well as host fundraisers.
- (4) Director's Report (from Erin):
  - Erin has drawn up employee schedule for next two weeks.
  - Announced the library was able to save \$162 in technology expenses.
  - Employees are being extremely mindful of the spending freeze on non-essential operating expenses.
  - Carla offered to pay \$200 able to provide the adult summer reading program this year.
  - George offered to pay the \$100 membership fee to participate in Grove City Area Chamber of Business.
  - State Rep. Tim Bonner has been made aware of our financial crisis and has been asked to investigate whether emergency funding may be available.
  - Erin planning to virtually attend district library meeting on Friday (Mars library, host).

- Attorney Jack Cline (Grove City office) is representing library board in matters concerning library director Amy Gallagher.

#### Children's Programming/ Fundraising (from Heather B.):

- Heather has a full slate of events and activities for the upcoming Summer Reading Program. She is able to provide this program at no cost to the library, due to generous support from the community. Signups start June 5. Events include a magic show, music and movement classes, French language class, yoga/pilates fitness classes, movies, Bingo, mini golf, Lego Club, and more. The program finale features a family swim party July 27 at the GC Park Pool.
- Fundraisers include the Primanti Bros. fundraiser on May 18 (20 percent of all sales will be donated to library; Allegheny Consolidates hosting a fundraiser May 20 at Rudy's restaurant; Grove City Nutrition hosting fundraiser June 2 (library will receive a portion of all sales that day); bake sale to be hosted by library 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 5 at library; Big Rail Brewing will host fundraiser July 2 (proceeds go to library); GC Library hosting a Marianna's Sub and Pizza Sale (pickup Aug. 12). In addition, a library craft and vendor show will be held Aug. 12 at the GC Memorial Park with proceeds benefitting library. And, there is a 10X12 foot shed that is being raffled with proceeds benefitting the library. The donated shed, courtesy of Peaceful Pines Structures and valued at \$6,000, is on display at the park. The annual used book sale will be held Sept. 9 at Memorial Park, and the popular soup and sandwich fundraiser is set for Nov. 10 at the GC Library.
- Grove City elementary students are participating in penny wars with the money raised helping our library.

(5) Friends of the Library Report: Sue said ACE Hardware is having the roundup event in May to benefit the library. Customers can participate by rounding up their bills or donating whatever amount they choose. She is also looking

into whether the library could host a “Night at the Races” fundraiser this fall.

- (6) Executive Sessions and Actions Taken: Special executive session held April 25 via Zoom videoconference in which it was decided to suspend library director Amy Gallagher with pay. Erin, Stacy, Heather L., George, Dave, Liz present at meeting. Two board members would present formal letter to Ms. Gallagher on Saturday, April 29, informing her of decision and requesting that she turn in her library laptop, bank cards, building keys, and not have contact with any library employees or access any library financial accounts. Special executive session held May 1 via Zoom in which discussion was held and motion made by Liz to investigate candidates for an interim director at GC library. Those attending were Erin, Vince, Stacy, Heather L., George, Liz and Dave. George seconded motion; motion carried unanimously. Special action taken May 18 following executive meeting with attorney Cline at Grove City office. Those attending were Erin, Stacy, Heather L., George, Dave and Carla. George made motion that Ms. Gallagher be terminated immediately. Dave seconded; motion approved unanimously by all present. Ms. Gallagher will be notified via registered mail.
- (7) New Business: Murphy Kershaw, son of library trustee Dave Kershaw, is expected to make a presentation to the board regarding his interest in focusing his Eagle Scout project on the library. Efforts involve generating income for the library and working toward getting changes made at the state level so that all Pennsylvania libraries have more reasonable goals they are required to meet.
- (8) Regular meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Executive session was called immediately following in which discussion was held and motion made by George with second from Liz that (pending attorney Cline’s approval) Ms. Gallagher is immediately dismissed from her position as library director and that she is requested to refund her pre-paid payroll if applicable by law. Motion passed unanimously. Action #2 taken by board approved following motion by Liz that we report concerns to state ethics commission due to

Ms. Gallagher's current position on the Grove City Borough Council. George seconded; motion carried unanimously with Vince abstaining.

Minutes submitted by Heather Leskanic, board secretary, on May 30, 2023.

Next meeting is June 14.