

**FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON  
THURSDAY, February 9, 2023**

**7:30 PM**

**Present:** Thomas Binting, President, David Luber (Zoom), James Schessler, Louise Easton, Kate Bartley, JoAnne McCarthy, Joe Riopel, Karen Bessin, School Representative, Marilyn Favreau, Library Director and Mary Fevola, Finance and Administration Manager

**Absent:** Mayor Robert Conley

**Guests:** Kathy Trombacco, Chair/President of the Friends of the Madison Public Library (FMPL) and Corinne Bowen, Supervisor Circulation and ILL (Zoom)

Mr. Binting called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM. Ms. Easton announced in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act," proper notice of this meeting and all Library Board meetings for the year 2023 was made. Proper notice was further posted and mailed on February 3, 2023 notifying the public that the meeting of the Library Board of Trustees scheduled for February 9, 2023 will be held in person beginning at 7:30 pm in the Chase Auditorium with the option of electronic participation using the published Zoom link.

The minutes of the January 12, 2023 Reorganization Meeting of the Board were presented for consent. Ms. McCarthy advised of the typo in her name. With the exception of the name correction, the minutes were accepted as distributed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Binting provided a construction project update. The architect's bid documents should be ready by the end of February and will be advertised in March. If reasonable bids are received the hope is to start the project in May. If bids are prohibitively expensive, bid documents may need revision. As mentioned previously, abatement of the ceilings is required before interior construction begins. Abatement is dependent on bond availability of the asbestos removal company and school calendars; schools have priority for asbestos abatement during scheduled breaks.

Mr. Binting welcomed Mr. Thomas Haralampoudis who briefly stopped by and presented him with a gift from the library in appreciation for his years of service. Mr. Haralampoudis thanked everyone. The Board wished him well in his role as a Council Member.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Luber reviewed the February 2023 Bill List.

Upon motion of Ms. McCarthy and seconded by Ms. Bartley, the Board unanimously

**“Resolved to approve the February Bill List in the amount of \$27,532.77”**

Mr. Luber reviewed the Library’s financial reports for the period ended January 31, 2023. The budgeted insurance expense from the Borough was charged entirely in January. Preliminary budget figures for the library were adjusted for insurance, PERS and social security to reflect Borough charges and will be presented for formal approval at the March or April Board Meeting after state approval of the Borough’s budget.

### **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mrs. Favreau reviewed her monthly report highlighting the upward trend in foot traffic; virtual Adult program attendance surpassing previous in person participation and very strong attendance at in person morning Children’s programs. Fine free status for Madison library material, with the exception of museum passes and the discovery collection, was announced to the community. Fines the library is required to collect for other libraries that are not fine free continue to be discussed by Main libraries.

The trailer rental contract for relocation during construction was signed at the end of January which allowed the price to be locked in while permitting a flexible start date. The Borough is scheduled at the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to approve TTI’s Professional Services proposal (asbestos abatement company). The furniture design company will be visiting the library to offer their free design services.

The Borough voted to withdraw from the State Health Benefits Plan at the end of March and will join the North Jersey Health Insurance Fund effective April 1, 2023.

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Binting directed the Board to the distributed Buildings and Grounds report.

### **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Nothing to report.

### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. Bartley presented the distributed updated Patron Code of Conduct Policy to the Board.

Upon motion of Ms. Easton and seconded by Ms. McCarthy, the Board unanimously

**“Resolved to approve the Updated Patron Code of Conduct Policy”**

## **TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Luber advised Phil Berg, Executive Director of MAIN, quoted a replacement cost of approximately \$4,300 to replace the Meraki router. If the replacement can be installed prior to the building closing for construction, the library will not need to renew the license for the existing router.

## **SCHOOLS AND TEENS**

Ms. Bessin advised collaboration with the library continues and teachers were very interested in the writing contest being co-sponsored by the library. Ms. Bessin thanked the library for weekly delivery of school library books inadvertently returned to the library and for the donated Spanish language materials which are already being put to good use.

## **FMPL**

Kathy Trombacco advised the Annual Appeal has received over \$35,000 in contributions, surpassing its \$28,000 goal. She also advised a House & Garden tour is planned for September 12, 2023 and the Annual Gala honoring Peggy Oakes will be held on April 22, 2023 at Grace Episcopal Church. The FMPL's gaming license elapsed and is being renewed this year. Return to in person Winter Minicourses is seeing good attendance.

## **MUF/Main Library Alliance (Main)**

Nothing to report on Main.

Mrs. Favreau reported since MUF is a 501(c) (3) corporation, the bank used by MUF will waive the monthly \$30 service fee. Discussions are underway for a Spring Dinner.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

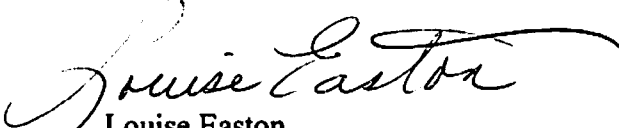
Nothing to report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

The meeting was adjourned 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Louise Easton  
Secretary