In Attendance

Trustees: Vic Bonneville, Cathleen DeSimone, Diane Mangiaratti, Mahesh Patel (not yet sworn in by City Clerk), Charlie Oliver
Staff: Joan Pilkington-Smyth

Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes from November 8, 2017 reviewed and approved with the following amendments:

1.) Under Business Required by Law: the 5 year plan update was submitted and approved by MBLC
2.) Under Director’s Report: Exercise bikes have arrived but are not yet installed.

Business Required by Law:

Charlie reported that APL’s annual certification has been received and that the first installment of state aid will be in the amount of $25,841.98 to arrive in January. A second installment of the same amount will arrive in June. The total amount was reduced by 12% from last year due to the decrease in library hours.

Treasurer’s Report

Charlie reported that the checking account balance is approximately $10,000. Warrant #6 for $6100.48 reviewed and approved. Funds to pay warrant #6 will be transferred from investment account. Gifts and donations totaling $3057.00 accepted. (This included $2992.00 given by the Chiarenza Trust. These funds will be moved to investment fund.)

Committee Reports:

No committee reports at this time.

Director’s Report

Written report submitted and reviewed. Number of loans for November 2017 amended from 15375 to 16894. The City will be asking for bids to conduct a thorough study of the roof and entire top of the building (including HVAC, gutters, etc.) to identify source of on-going water issues. Joan reported that the building’s water system passed inspection as part of the fire safety review. Joan will be meeting with Gary Ayrassian to discuss possible changes to capital improvement plan. The library will be closed on January 26 for the annual staff training day. Training will include active shooter drill, a fire drill, familiarizing staff with location and role of various city organizations and community service agencies, and reviewing customer service competencies. Amy Rhilinger wrote and received grant funds for a STEM program based on nature and animals. Joan met with Mayor Dumas and Mayer-elect
Heroux to review current projects and the responsibilities and requirements APL has to the city and the state regarding funding, reporting, grant applications, staffing, working with local schools, the Big Read project, the vision statement, the 5 year plan, roof project, and lighting project. The office copier is broken and due to be replaced by the city. Parking issues continue with patrons complaining about the limited number of spaces and parking tickets received while attending library events. Joan also mentioned that some libraries and librarians have begun discussing the need for libraries to play a bigger role in the social justice movement and possibly changing library polices to reflect social justice causes. She referred to some recent changes in Canada where libraries are prohibiting the use of their spaces by groups with discriminatory agendas.

**Unfinished Business:**

The Lions Club submitted pictures of two possible statues for donation to APL. The Board approved the statue of 4 children sitting on a bench looking at a book. The statue will be installed inside the library but the exact location is not yet determined.

**New Business:**

There will be a Legislative Breakfast in Fall River on January 19th. Charlie will be attending and welcomed other board members to join him.

**Next Meeting**

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting January 10, 2018.