

**North Wales Area Library Board Meeting
Approved Minutes from December 18, 2024**

Present: Tanya Bamford, Joye Bramble, Scott Cunningham, Jen DiMario, Pam Gallagher, Suzan Leonard, Hailey Nelson, Jackie Oberholtzer, Stephen Simchak, Jocelyn Tenney, Pam Wilson, and Library Director Jennifer Koch.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM.

Approval of minutes: November meeting minutes were unanimously approved per motion by Jocelyn and second by Jackie.

Financial Report /Hailey: Broke even in November. Net surplus year-to-date is \$6,700 which will help carry through year end. With 10K received from Montgomery Township, all municipal and state money received. Awaiting action from the IRS on ERC 40K noted in 2024 budget. Cash position at same point as last year minus 10K due to transfer to endowment.

Budget/Hailey: Expecting 25K from Montgomery Township for next year. Budget is currently balanced including big appeals and profits from events. Pam G. motions to approve budget, Jocelyn seconds. Unanimous approval.

President's Reports/Suzan:

- **Goodbye to Scott:** Suzan thanked Scott for his time on the Board. He is resigning from the Board after this meeting but will continue to volunteer in the library.
- **New Board applicants:** Planning to meet two qualified applicants at January Board meeting. A possible conflict of interest was noted given that one candidate's child is a student in the classroom of a Board member. Also, Friends of the Library could use new members. Weekday meeting schedule for Friends may be an issue for some interested parties.
- **Nominating Committee/Pam G.:** All Board officers are willing to continue in current positions. Regarding Board positions, Jackie's position must be approved by North Wales Borough Council. Other at-large members finishing out terms are Joye, Pam W. and Stephen. January meeting will formalize.
- **Events:**
 - Staff holiday party: 12/23 at 3 pm in library.
 - February 14th is Valentine's trivia night. Also planning a "love your library" Amazon wish list for February.
 - Taste of Montgomery County will be April 10, 2025. January Board meeting will start at 5:45 PM to discuss.
 - Library Giving Day is 4/1, nationally designated for online donations.

Facilities/Joye: Still waiting for Landis proposal for HVAC upgrades. Communication regarding permit for pavilion needs to be resolved.

Library Report/Jen K.: Successful fundraising efforts total 44K for infrastructure, nearly 6K for children's programs, \$2,660 for shelf awareness, and over \$900 for legacy bricks. Received a phone call from gentleman who is executor of an estate expected to donate to the library. There will be a final e-mail/video push during last days of December focused on enhancements to teen area. Very positive responses to fundraisers for teens and children's programming. Blood drive is set for tomorrow. Raised over \$1,500 for other non-profits.

Negotiated discount with purveyors of *Their Story* software program. Possible tie-in to Montgomery Township hosting mobile Vietnam War Memorial "The Wall That Heals" in July.

New Business: Jennifer informed the Board that Jayne, who continues to lead a number of library programs, has expressed concern regarding the loss of her library e-mail address previously used to communicate with book club members. Pam W. asked if a legacy type e-mail address might be provided, much as the Community College provides to long-time employees upon retirement. Consensus is that volunteers should not have e-mail addresses. Also, Jayne has requested use of the library for a program at a time when the library will be closed. Concern is in setting precedent for other groups wanting to use the library during closed times. Policy regarding meeting room usage during library closures may need revisiting. To be discussed at January meeting.

Old Business: Hailey says another 7-month CD is maturing. Question of rolling it over or cashing it out. Motion to roll it over by Suzan, seconded by Tanya. Measure is approved.

Jocelyn cites article noting that NJ has become the latest state to prohibit book bans. Discussion of how book bans might be addressed in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 per motion by Jen DiMario and second by Jocelyn.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

Prior to the meeting, a *Taste of Montgomery County* planning session is scheduled for 5:45 PM