Board of Trustees meeting on July 17, 2023

Present: Kris Ely, Stephen Spero, Jim O’Pecko, Eileen Baessler, Ann Reed, Dawn Augenti, Kathy Matis, Vicky Calby, Craig Benson, Angie Zick, Joann Reimel, Angie Hall, Fred Cicilioni, Cathy Harter, Brian Lione, George Conner, Bonnie Yuscavage

Absent: Jason Miller, Chris Caterson

Call to Order: Steve Spero called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and welcomed guests to the meeting. This meeting was held at the Historical Society.

Guest: Commissioner Alan Hall

A motion was made to approve the minutes, the motion passed with a correction for the June minutes.

By-laws and Policy Committee has recommended changing our privacy policy, but more research is required before making any changes. There was a question from a guest regarding the circulation policy and the amount of funding that the county provides to the library.

Bonnie Yuscavage provided a review of the Historical Society. This will cover the condition of the museum, grants, and other issues. There is a clean-up to prepare for the BBF. An assessment of the building resulted is stating the building is in good condition, but there are moths. This has resulted in sealing off the Blackman Room and covering the bear. The carpet in the Blackman Room that had moths was removed. The moth traps have been successful in collecting moths. The freezer is scheduled to be delivered on July 18.

Brian and Bonnie applied for an American 250 Infrastructure grant. There was a hearing at Lake Wallenpaupack for this that Brian and Bonnie attended. $4,000 was spent on the vacuum cleaner and freezer to be used for the Historical Society.

Kathy Matis discussed the finance meeting that was held prior to the monthly meeting. Again, it was said that the committee is unhappy with the finance reports that we are receiving. The lottery for this year needs promotion, final plans need to be completed. 260 tickets have been sold to date.

Fundraising is an important part of the library finances. The library should ask all county municipalities for some Act 13 money.

Chris Ely is tasked with moving to a new accounting firm. This would be to cover payroll and accounting. It is optimal to get three bid proposals.

There is a proposal to change non-bid project amounts from $3k to $5k. Over $5K, three bid proposals would be required. There was a motion to approve this policy and the motion was approved.

Alan Hall recommended that the association call T&S Tax now. The board declared an emergency and directed Kris Ely to hire T&S Tax thru December 31st, 2024. There was a motion made to approve this and the motion was approved.

There is lead paint in both rooms of the Forest City Library. A painter was found that will subcontract to Phil Hodges to encapsulate the lead paint. Phil Hodges is certified to approve this work. Once the painting is completed, there needs to be a plan in place to renovate the library. The shelving may be an issue.

Jim O’Pecko is to reach out to the Junior family regarding the library renovation.

The BBF is moving forward. Ice cream and buckle is being worked by Lori Welch and Fairdale UMC will provide volunteers.

A motion to approve hiring Phil Hodges to complete lead encapsulation in Forest City was made and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

The next meeting is in Susquehanna on August 21st. at 4:00 PM.



James A. O’Pecko - Recording Secretary