Ashville Free Library Board of Trustees Meeting January 28, 2025

Members in Attendance:

* President Don Butler
* Pat Poignard
* Roberta Schruise
* Eugenie Poignard
* Pete Radka
* Director Kristina Benson
* Absent: Mary Jo Eddy, Michelle Arnone, Kathy Burns, Melissa First
* Visitor: Adrienne Foos-Potential board member

There was a clarification to the minutes from last month. Pete Radka was left off the members in attendance. Roberta made a motion to accept minutes and Pat seconded. This passed unanimously.

* Introduction to Adrienne Foos-potential board member-an overview of the board, including responsibilities was verbally provided.
* Mary Jo will leave of absence from board with no return date given
* Eugenie will assume the role of Secretary
* Board members 3-year terms up: Pat, Roberta, Michelle, Don and Pete
  + All agreed to continue on the board (Kristina accepted for Michelle) and their current positions.
  + Pete made a motion to accept the slate of officers and Eugenie seconded. Approved unanimously.

The Financial Officer’s report was given by Pete

* CD $10,730.47
* Checking $86,265.85
* Money Market Fund $0.00
* Savings $5,523.34
* Money Received $1,100
* Memorials and Grants to be spent $0.00
* Investments UBS Brokerage $18,489.24
* Overall Total $122,109.18
* Discussion regarding shifting funds from checking due to little interest collecting-Don to call Tim to see about interest rates.
* Don reported that we received $14,692 in the will of Willie Swanson
  + Discussion on how to allocate funds ($10,000 into a CD and $4,000 for children’s books).

Director’s Report was given by Kristina

Cash Revenues for Jan 25

Overdues $0.00

Copier Fees $8.80

Fax $4.00

Computer Printing $6.00

Donations 43.45

Library Card Replacements $0.00

Ill Fees $0.00

Book Replacements $0.00

Other $0.00

Total $62.25

* Circulation is steady.
* New Tonie figurines have been purchased.
* Story time is going well and Kristina would like to start children’s yoga class; also Kelly would like to add another children’s class (art/music?)
* Programming is going well.
  + Meditation class well attended-may have article in PJ about it.
  + Trying to get a crochet class going-Kristina received at $1,000 grant; currently looking for an instructor
  + Mah Jong may start in May
* New cleaning person/service starting this week
* Cat-a-Thon: Library will be getting a new cat
  + Kristina has been in contact with CCHS and will host an event on 2/27/25 10am-12pm with CCHS.
    - Pre-select a cat prior to event
    - CCHS will bring some adoptable cats to the library
  + Will have an upcoming contest to name the new cat

New Business

* Discussion and Vote- **Ashville library will be a fund free library-**no longer charging fines for books returned late.
  + Many libraries are already doing this and often fines are getting waived.
  + **Patrons will still be charged for lost books-they will be charged the cost of a replacement book.**
* **Eliminate fees charged for patrons faxing documents from library.**
* Don made the motion to accept both motions, Roberta seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.
* **5 year plan discussion**
  + Don reviewed the previous 5 year plan and there was discussion on what areas from previous plan were met/achieved and what we want to accomplish in the next 5 years.
  + Discussion on updates to entryway, new office furniture/chairs upstairs, signage, carpeting/tree trimming, wall refresh downstairs.
  + Don will draft something for the next meeting for review.
* **Vote on approval to add Adrienne Foos as a board member. Eugenie made a motion and Roberta seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Adrienne accepted the nomination.**

The next board meeting is February 25, 2025 at 6:30pm.

Submitted by,

Eugenie Poignard