

HMML Trustees Minutes Tuesday 9/21/21

Meeting Called to Order: 7:04pm

In Attendance:

Betsy McCombs
Robin O'Day
Michelle Wheeler
John Clark

Not in attendance:

Joan Harlow

Secretary's Report:

Robin moves to accept the minutes, Betsy seconds, all are in favor except John who abstains because he wasn't here.

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing of note in the regular spending. No spending in non lapsing since the last meeting. Originally Betsy and Ben put in a 1.8% staff cost of living raise and then looked at line items to adjust. Telephone, Comcast, needs to increase because of alarm systems etc from expansion and also maintenance now includes cleaning and so that line item needs to increase. Monthly averages for those means in total we need a \$5300 increase. Ben thought we could decrease media to \$16,000 easily. We thought we could decrease technology by \$500 but the Destiny software wasn't accounted for. Typically technology is under \$100 a month but there are a couple of annual renewals that push it up.

Keeping the total budget increase to a maximum of 2% is the goal.

Robin feels a 1.8% cost of living increase doesn't seem like enough. It's not unreasonable to go into budget talks with a higher budget and room to come down.

EDIT per the video of the meeting Betsy will refigure the numbers for a cost of living raise plus a raise for compensation

In 2021 the salaries increased by 2.1%.

EDIT per the video of the meeting Robin suggests a 2.8% raise for employees

We're only looking, right now, in increasing our budget by \$2300 dollars for 2022. Electricity costs are pretty reliable month to month, at the end of August we've used less than 40% of that line item, could some money come out of there? Maybe up to \$1000.

The trustees feel that by managing line items to minimize the budget increase it justifies the increase in salaries to keep our excellent employees.

EDIT per the video John confirms we will ask for 2.8% salary increases

Director/Youth Report

August is usually a slower month than July, digital circulation is up as is meeting room usage. 19 new patrons this month is pretty high. Programs coming up include a special storytime because there is no school The Friends are having a community fair on Saturday with scarecrow kits, the bookroom will be open. At the school there is also a community yard sale and a craft fair at Holy Grail so those events will tie together. On 10/5 an essential oil workshop is coming up.

A book group is starting at the end of October.

The library usually has a Halloween party, this year on the Friday prior to Halloween.

Mums come in on Saturday morning from the Garden Club.

Library Expansion

More plants were added to the landscape on 9/17. The exit signs and emergency lighting in the bathroom has been done. That makes the bathroom lights automatic now. Ben doesn't have an invoice for that yet but it should end up being cheaper and we're ready for a permanent COO. The HMML sign for the front is still being worked on. Charlie says he's still trying to get the patio bricks in for this fall.

The water tank is now empty and will be taken back to the Clapp property for the winter.

Motion to adjourn at 7:36 by Robin, seconded by Betsy, unanimously approved.