

Great Neck Library
BRANCH COMMITTEE
Monday, April 20, 2020
Via WebEx

Board Members

Barry Smith, Chair (BS)
Weihua Yan (WY)
Scott Sontag (SS)
Josie Pizer (JP)

Staff

Tracy Van Dyne (TV)
Justin Crossfox (JC)
Alana Mutum (AM)
Egita Johnson (EJ)
Charles Wohlgemuth (CW)

Call to Order

BS called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. He thanked staff for all their working during this difficult time specifically for all the virtual programming they have made available to patrons.

Update on Action Items

Tracy Van Dyne

1. Contact Dr. Teresa Prendergast, GN Schools Superintendent, to update her on Parkville Branch renovations contract. **DONE. TV reported that she and CW met with John Powell and Alfredo Cavallero of the Great Neck School district regarding the missing information pertaining to the intellectual property language on the contract. She announced that BBS said that they will not be revising the contract naming MDA as the owner of the intellectual property as they feel that this has been agreed upon on “good faith” with MDA. Library Counsel and Elisabeth Martin (MDA) both agreed that this is unacceptable. TV requested committee approval to update the contract putting MDA in charge of all aspects of the renovation (engineering and design). After discussion, the committee agreed with this update. BS asked WY to share this information with the board at its next board meeting.**
2. Place MDA contract revision on next BoT agenda. **DONE.**
3. Add placement of television monitors at all library locations on next committee meeting agenda. **DONE. TV stated that all TV monitors have been ordered and will be installed once the library reopens.**

Station Branch

JC reported that he has provided several virtual programs to the library patrons. These include a bi-weekly graphic book club and another book club which will be starting up soon. For this club, JC will be picking books through Hoopla as there is no limit to the number of people taking out the same electronic book. JC shared that he is working on a Microhistory video project documenting the daily life of Great Neck patrons during the quarantine. A call has gone out for videos and, once received, he will edit them and share via the library’s YouTube channel. BS recommended he reach out directly to the schools to obtain videos from teachers and administrators. He also asked how JC is keeping stats for the number of participants joining his

virtual programs. JC responded that he is keeping the numbers in a journal. BS asked TV to provide him with a schedule of the virtual programming.

Lakeville Branch

AM stated that she has been working on compiling a variety of staff training, as well as, managing the flow of programs. She added that she is now working with Nick Camastro, Circulation Manager, James Pagano, Technical Services Manager and Tracy on coordinating the Tele-Outreach initiative. Library staff will be calling all library patrons to inform them that although the library is not physically open, they are still open to service the community in many ways.

Parkville Branch

EJ reported that Kat Baumgartner, Children's Librarian, is conducting daily story times and read alouds. She added that she and Lisa Crandall, Reference Librarian, are providing book recommendations on Facebook. EG noted that Lisa has also posted some cooking videos which have been well received. Kori Tuitt, Shelver, has shared several recipes and crochet tutorials, as well. EJ shared that she is posting Baby Ballet lessons by Nicola Ciotta every Wednesday morning and that she is working with another vendor, JumpBunch, with the goal of posting their dance videos too.

Open Time

SS thanked the staff for the variety of videos they have been sharing but suggested that some interactive live programming also be provided. He said that interactive story times or sing-alongs would be great for the kids. SS added that having medical professionals host a live program regarding the current pandemic where patrons can have their questions answered would be very useful. BS agreed and said he will provide TV with the names of some colleagues that may be able to help her coordinate this.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by Gina Chase

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Action Items

Tracy Van Dyne

1. Update board on Parkville Branch renovations contract.
2. Provide board with schedule of virtual programming.