

## Nazareth Library Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Attendance: Holly Bennett (Executive Director), Christopher Cook (President), Len Fodera (Treasurer), Becky Bartlett (Secretary), Cindy Corpora, Nancy Teague, Jarred Bedoya, Evan Davis

Absent: Mary Reichel-Knecht, Nate Golub (Vice President), Amy Templeton, Davene Perusso (Liaison) and Julie Bender (Liaison)

**Chris Crook called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

### **President Remarks: Christopher Crook**

Welcome to Nancy Teague, now representing Lower Nazareth Township.

Chris reported that the Pet Parade on May 18<sup>th</sup> went very well. There were 75 registrants and a net profit of \$6,834.48. The committee will meet on May 29<sup>th</sup> to review and make suggestions. Chris said he thinks we should do this event again next year. Becky agreed and suggested we try to get more media coverage. Len pointed out that, compared to 2023, we nearly doubled both the amount of participants and the net profits. Cindy recommended that we use music next year to slow the parade down and that we don't schedule it around prom. Holly said we need to have festivities at the end point.

**April Board Minutes:** On a first from Cindy Corpora and a second by Evan Davis, a motion to accept the April meeting minutes. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report: Len Fodera**

Len said everything is in order and the Library is still collecting money from the municipalities. Holly said she will look into UNT's payment.

### **Director's Report (Holly Bennett, Executive Director)**

Catherine Stewart retired recently after 44 years with the Library. Donations are being made in her honor to buy books in the Children's section. So far, \$980 has been collected.

Holly is submitting grants for the basement renovation. Lisa Boscola is planning to provide \$75,000 in funds from Keystone Communities Additional Appropriation. Holly reported she needs the Letters of Support from the municipalities soon.

A Customer Service position is open but won't be filled until Fall.

Holly pointed out that the majority of programming is paid for with grants.

The Policy Committee will need to meet before June 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss new policies for "Lost and Found" and "Behavior."

Holly is meeting with Watch Keep to negotiate on the contract renewal for 2025. The contract with Watchkeep to migrate email has been signed and implementation will begin in June.

**Learning Minutes:** Berry Steiner and Anneliese Warnke

Berry spoke about the 2024 Summer Reading program for young children: “Come Out & Play.” Activities will include trips to Jacobsburg Park, music instruction, games and visits from Smokey Bear and Ferrous from the Iron Pigs, etc. Registration begins on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Participants may register on-line after presenting their library card in-person to staff. An Olympic podium has been installed in the Children’s department where readers will receive their medals for achievement.

Anneliese spoke about programming for teens: “The Spirit of Adventure.”

There will also be a number of programs available for adults.

**Board Business: Christopher Crook**

*Underserved Veterans.* Erin Morrow, District Consultant, spoke about previous discussions about making library cards available for veterans who live in non-participating municipalities. Erin said this was not the best plan. MLNV is in the Bethlehem District, Plainfield, Stockertown, and Tatamy are in the Easton District. Residents of those municipalities are eligible to purchase a library card from Easton for \$75. Attempting to give MLNV card to a ‘special group,’ such as veterans, could result in a legal fight. While it’s possible for us to do this, Erin recommended against it.

Holly reported that Nate Golub had similar reservations and suggested that MLNV come up with a program for veterans.

HVAC Replacement Project: Holly spoke with Brenda Reinart and they are currently in a holding pattern. Deliverables from the bidding package are due on June 12<sup>th</sup>. It is possible that MLNV might need to ask Keystone for an extension.

Fundraisers: Holly requested the Board start thinking about Touch-a-Truck. This year’s event will be held at the Bushkill facility. The Library will need help from the municipalities.

Len pointed out that, in 2026, the Library will be 75-years old and this could be a fundraising opportunity. Chris suggested a committee be formed.

**Board Business:**

Jarred asked about liability risk from workers who come in to assist with the HVAC project. Chris pointed out that labor from municipalities is considered an in-kind donation as MLNV is owned by the municipalities. Holly said she will get the information by Thursday.

**The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted: Becky Bartlett**