

MINUTES OF THE
PLAINEDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY
ANNUAL LIBRARY BUDGET HEARING

MAY 12, 2014

7:00 PM

Present:

Mrs. Laura Oden-Bell, President
Mrs. Ann Doxsey, Vice President
Mr. Dave Gottlieb, Trustee
Mrs. Ellen Ryder, Trustee, Absent with Prior Notice
Mr. Michael Giris, Trustee, Attended 7:00 PM-7: 20 PM

Mrs. Marilyn Kappenberg, Director
Mrs. Judith Nilsen, Assistant Director
Mrs. Dorothy Klotz, Principal Account Clerk

Guests:

Mike Whitty, Plainedge Resident
Richard Kappenberg

Pledge of Allegiance

The president led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the President.

Community Comments and Questions Concerning the 2014/2015 Library Operating Budget

Laura Oden-Bell welcomed Mike Whitty and asked if he had any questions or comments. Mr. Whitty was surprised that he was the only resident in attendance.

He asked the Board members what their term length is. Marilyn Kappenberg answered five years.

He also asked who creates the budget and if it is done at the Library. Laura Oden-Bell told Mr. Whitty that the Director works hard to create the budget. The Trustees and Director then review and revise it together before proposing it to the public.

Mr. Whitty was concerned with the security system and questioned who reviews security camera footage. The Director said they are not manned and no one sees the footage. Dave Gottlieb added that if there is a problem at the Library then the video footage will be reviewed. Mike Whitty asked who views the footage. The Director said she and the Library's Computer Specialist would most likely watch the footage.

Mr. Whitty asked if checks were signed at the Board meetings. The Director said they were not.

Laura Oden-Bell reminded Mr. Whitty that this was the Annual Budget Hearing, and asked that he limit his question to Library Budget matters. She invited him to attend the regular Board of Trustees meeting on May 21, 2014, to ask additional questions not generally related to the Budget.

Mr. Whitty then questioned the increase in postage in the proposed budget. He also questioned why the newsletter needed to be published and mailed out. He thought money could be saved by posting the newsletter on the website or emailing it out to residents.

The Director said although the Library does bulk mailing, she must use four different post offices. In addition, postage rates have increased.

Laura Oden-Bell added that some library residents prefer a newsletter in print as they do not use computers. The Library newsletter is available from our homepage as well. For the present, the Library maintains a balance of technology and print to accommodate all of our patrons.

Mr. Whitty asked about the increased book budget. The Director answered that more book funds were needed due to the new Common Core Curriculum.

Mr. Whitty noted the increase in insurance costs. The Director explained that premiums were raised for most of Long Island due to Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Whitty again asked about Trustees. The Director made it clear that Library Trustees do not get paid for their service. He also asked about the decrease in salaries in the budget. The Director said two staff members had retired and had not been replaced.

Last of all, Mr. Whitty wanted to know if the Library gets audited. Ann Doxsey told him the Library is audited once per year and the audit is then sent to New York State for review.

The Board and Library Director thanked Mr. Whitty for attending and bringing in questions.

A motion was made by Ann Doxsey and seconded by Laura Oden-Bell to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM.
Motion unanimously approved.

Date of May monthly Meeting of the Trustees is Wednesday, May 21, 2014.

Secretary's Signature

Date Approved

Secretary's Initials