

**Town of Howey-in-the-Hills Library Board Meeting
Marianne Beck Memorial Library
112 W. Central Ave**

Date: December 7, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

Attendance: Fran Wagler, Rosemary Soto, Marcia Schneider, Tahsia O'Keefe, Tara Hall, Library Director, JoJo Lowe, President of Howey Friends of the Library. Bob Latshaw and Pat Vacherlon were excused.

Minutes: The November meeting minutes were approved as read.

Library Director's Report: See the attached report.

New Business:

1. Director Hall made the following announcements:

The Director is applying for a state library construction grant.

The Director will be attending the December 11 Town Council Meeting and has had the following ~~on the~~ items placed on the agenda. She is asking members of the Library Board that are available to attend also.

- Parks and Rec will be asking permission to turn over their impact fee funds of approximately \$60,000.00 toward the construction of the Library expansion project and this will be accepted either by the Friends of Howey Library or the Library Foundation;
- And to request that the parking spaces in front of the library be resurfaced particularly the handicapped space that is in severe disrepair.

2. The library patio umbrella is again broken. John Ernest had repaired it once and this time it is not repairable. Other options will be pursued by the Friends of the Library.

3. The library is having the good fortune of more books being donated. JoJo Lowe has sought options for getting some of these to others in the community that may not have access to the library. The Free Books at the park is one, she is contacting some area Nursing Homes. The jail has been accepting paperbacks however not at present. The Free Book cart at the Library entrance has been used as well as donations for shelved books in the Friends Books for Donation section.

4. Director Hall has scheduled an artist once a month to display their work at the library. A meet and greet open to the public during music on the plaza events will coincide with an artists exhibit as another opportunity for local artists.

5. Sandy Hill, a Howey Library volunteer and Scott Amey from Eastlake are developing a position of "Poet Laureate" for the Lake County Library System to encourage interest and create exposure for poets and poetry in general.

6. Director Hall attended the the Lake County Library Directors' Meeting today. Announcements included creating a mini kiosk at each library to provide citizens who are blind or have limited vision service information from the Bureau of Braille and Talking Books. Howey Library will be presenting this information to the public soon.

7. Interest in chess has been expanding On December 5th 20 kids attended to play and learn. Howey Library will be hosting a community chess tournament in January coordinated by Sean O'Keefe from the Lake County Library System.

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8. Director Hall has been presented with several concerns and questions regarding the landscaping in front of the library. It has been assumed that the property is that of the library. However Parks and Recreation has been looking to redo the landscaping. Some citizens have questioned that as they had planted a learning garden of native Florida plants. However as a courtesy the Library Board would like the opportunity to review any plans that are created.

(Note: that since this Board meeting it has been clarified that Parks and Recreation has jurisdiction over the landscaping in front of the Library.)

9. Fran Wagler has volunteered to organize the bake goods auction for the Christmas Festival to benefit the Library expansion fund. The Library and the Library Friends group greatly appreciate her commitment.

Public Comments: None

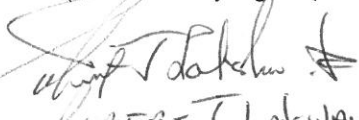
The motion to adjourn was made by Beth Flack, Rosemary Soto seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Schneider

Marcia Schneider, Secretary

(electronically signed)


ROBERT J. LATSCHAW JR, Chairman