

WEST NEW YORK LIBRARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES - October 4 , 2022

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the West New York Public Library held in person at the WNY Public Library at 6:00 pm

Vice President Adriana Rodriguez called the meeting to order, followed by reading the Open Public Meeting Notice and roll call.

The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT: Wei Lai, Director; Richard Pinal, attorney; Adriana Rodriguez, Amirza Hernandez, Katiana Hernandez, Lidice Solares, Marielka Diaz.

ABSENT: Nasrin Alam, Luis Baez, President Clara Herrera

A motion was made to approve the minutes. Marielka Diaz motioned, and Katiana Hernandez seconded. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Bank of America: Amirza will coordinate with BoA to schedule the next seminar for small business, but would need a master schedule to better plan and promote the service.

DIRECTOR UPDATE:

1. Tutoring program: Since the board's last meeting, the tutoring program has been a success, with six students from the high school tutoring younger students from 3 pm – 5 pm, sometimes until 7 pm. Director explained that it had not resumed because he was waiting for the budget to hire back the staff he needed from the high school. Amirza asked why the wait when we could ask the Superintendent of WNY schools Clara Herrera to help the library coordinate with those students who need to comply with volunteer hours from the honor society and the Teachers of Tomorrow Academy.
2. Composting presented by Gisela Ferrer: Was a great program. Adriana presented a suggestion of reaching out to retired teachers that would like to present something to the community.
3. The library set up a virtual fieldtrip that some schools participated. Adriana asked if we could share this with the entire district with approval by Superintendent Clara and the Board of Ed. Marielka expressed that she would talk to Superintendent Clara Herrera about how to do so.
4. Website: The website was redesigned to have a better interface. Amirza and Katiana are worried that the website is outdated in both information and aesthetic. The board would like more promo and outreach, and with the resource that the town has of communicating with the community using different modes. Adriana asked if there was a way to create a calendar to send to town hall in order to get more promo. Amirza suggested a QR code where patrons could scan and get information on library events.
5. NYC museum tickets: The library has three vouchers for a group of 4 to attend NYC museums for free. Adriana asked how can the library obtain more of those vouchers. Director Lai said he allocated monies from the budget for the voucher, Lidice suggested we try to allocate more because once there is better promo with the community, there will be a higher demand for this resource and others.
6. Adriana asked if there was a digital catalog, which Director Lai responded with Hoopla. This program costs the library money per downloaded item. Amirza asked if there was a possibility of shared costs

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with other town agencies to provide more opportunities for the community to download. Amirza also mentioned a training video to educate people on how to use the service.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Amirza expressed her communication with Autism of NJ to bring some training on autism awareness and possible training for parents and families.

PUBLIC SESSION: Akansha attended the meeting via telephone. She presented how she wants to bring West New York together by making changes or updates to the library in the following areas:

- Social media marketing
- Physical changes to layout of library and purging of unsued items
- Using the resources of local vendors and small businesses with a mutual beneficial exchnage
- Summer reading lists with updated catalog to better service the communitgy
- Fundraisers

Akansha signed off after her presentation.

End of public session.

2. Katiana asked how often and how do we update the catalog. Director Lai informed that while public interests in bookd dicates the purchase of such titeles. Katiana asked if it was possible to get best sellers and popular titles. Amirza asked if we could have a cleanout event that would allow free giveawys and more traffic.
3. There was a motion by Amirza to have elections, with Lidicie seconding, All in favor.

Vice President Adriana Rodriguez asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting and was motioned by Marielka Hernandez. Seconded by Katiana with All in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amirza Hernandez