

Literacy Volunteers of Sullivan County

LVSC Board Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2022

Members present: Dawn Ryder, Al Feller, Jill Atkins, Gay Donofrio, Vivian Ginsberg, Leo Glass, Lillian Tighe, Angela Dutcher

Members absent: Patricia Deagle, Luis Alvarez

Acceptance of Minutes: Al/Gay

President:

Welcome to Penny Medina who is joining us for the meeting today!

Treasurer:

March was the slowest month in the bookstore in a while. People are starting to go out and do more again. We're still doing better than we did in 2018 and 2019.

We just purchased fuel oil – it was about \$3.70 a gallon. There were 3 payrolls this month which is why payroll looks high.

The recommendation is to transfer \$3,000 from the bookstore and \$9,500 from the money market to the operating account. Gay made the motion to approve the transfer treasurer's report, seconded by Vivian.

Bethel Bookstore:

Dawn and Lillian met with Denise Frangipane and Sue Wright via Zoom. The first thing on the agenda is cleaning up the bookstore. The next meeting will be at the bookstore. We're hoping to have a clean up and donation day. Chrissy Welch from Thompson Sanitation is generously donating a dumpster for books.

Vivian suggested we avoid throwing out books. Angela has tried to sort through the books and brought books back to the Monticello bookstore. Vivian thought the lack of traffic might be why the books have not been selling. We have tried to give books away without much luck.

Dawn said our intention is to clean up and receive new donations. We're going to get rid of older books that won't sell and excess copies.

Gay will join the committee.

Board Development:

Penny is joining us for tonight's meeting and may be interested in joining the board. Penny is an ESL teacher at Liberty High School. She refers a lot of students to us and has been working with Angela for quite some time.

Special Events:

Angela showed the board the clock that was picked out by Connie to present to Nellie and Robert Gipson of the Tianaderrah Foundation. The event will be in the fall so we will table the discussion until further in the year.

We will also be doing a graduation for our students that have passed the GED test. Aileen Gunther will be happy to hand out certificates and MC the event. Al suggested we do the graduation in June with the high school graduations taking place but not enough students will have taken the test by that point. We currently have 37 students in the database. We currently have four eligible students but Angela thinks at least seven more will pass the test over the summer.

Vivian suggested honoring the Gipsons at the graduation. The board agreed that's a great idea.

We will do a basket of cheer for the Bagel Festival. All board members will donate one bottle.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

See attached report.

We received a \$5,000 from Nora Roberts – this is from the Pro Literacy Fund. It's for general expenses, there are no restrictions. We received \$4,000 from Nora Roberts last month.

For the GED program we have to buy a program called GED Ready, each student has to take the GED Ready (\$4 each) before taking the test. We will be reimbursed by the Monticello School District.

We will hopefully be doing an ESL class at the Mamakating Library.

Catholic Charities would like to do a GED class at their location. Stacy would be interested in doing the teaching.

Right now we are the only GED class in the area except for Job Corp but Job Corp is not available to people not in their program.

The only GED testing is in Poughkeepsie. None of the BOCES sites are open yet since COVID shutdowns. Liberty does not appear to be reopening. Angela has looked into being a testing center but it doesn't seem to be feasible because we would have to hire a dedicated employee to do the testing.

If someone is under the age of 18 they need to be approved to be a part of a GED program or take the test. Angela has been given the ability to accept them by New York State. Angela can also see if our students have passed.

The programs are really picking up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Leo has contacted someone to look at patching the blacktop. Sooner or later we'll have to repave the parking lot. We will get three quotes. After getting the quotes we can reach out to Aileen Gunther's office to see if we can get a grant.

Vivian suggested asking the Village if they can provide any help.

Meeting Adjourned: Al/Gay