

Bedford Village Free Library

Board Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024

Attendance: Scott Harrison, Ann Cloonan, Alison Todd, Colleen Gelfand (remote), Ted Eigel Artika Loganathan,

Guest: John Talty, Bedford Financial Portfolio Presentation (see attached)

Considerations: with the significant growth of the portfolio, consider adjustments to allocations to allow for regular withdrawals in the future

414 Funding:

- Arlene Friner has agreed to volunteer her time to facilitate the 414 meetings with the 3 libraries
- Main mission of December 414 meeting is to get to know Arlene and her approach
- We should consider increasing BFL's proposed 414 budget to secure funds we may need in the future and to keep things equitable

Strategic Planning:

- Jade from Margaret Sullivan Consultants will lead the planning process
- There have been 2 meetings thus far (Mary Kane and Ann attended)

Proposed committees are as follows:

1) Working Group

- a. 12-15 people, including key library staff and board representation (Artika, Alison)
- b. This process will entail 4 meetings, 4-6 hours each, Ann planning to send out details/dates before Thanksgiving

2) Trustees

3) Community Stakeholders

- a. Seniors
- b. NW community center

- c. Include community survey – can be included in Ellen's Newsletter
- d. Include employee survey

Director's Update:

- Annual appeal
 - 1600 letters were mailed to be received in mailboxes 11/15
 - 40 donations so far: \$5000 total
 - Since 7/1, donations total \$11000
- Events
 - Thanksgiving party 11/21/2024
 - Candy house
 - Elf Yourself
 - Sound of the season
 - Luminaries
 - Raffle before the tree lighting on 12/6 (winner rings bell before tree lighting)
 - Last month: Halloween storytime had 170 attendees and Battle of the Books was a great success with good press!
- Staff Updates:
 - Alex is shadowing Maureen for training
 - 2 new pages – Frannie and Avery

Financial Update from Ted:

- We are in good shape – consider setting up funds for regular withdrawals in the future
- Day-to-day cash will be replenished as annual appeal donations are received

Next meeting: December 18th

Meeting Adjourned: 8:10pm