Dobbs Ferry Public Library
Board of Trustees
October 6, 2016 Public Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 PM.

Present: Paula Dambroff, Cathy Gerard, Maria Nigro, Elizabeth Gilmore, Carolyn Schwartz
Edward Canora

Excused: Eric Menzie, Rebecca Pitts, Larry Taylor

Minutes:

It was requested that the minutes not convey any information about Executive Session. With that change, the minutes were unanimously approved.

President’s Report:

There will be a joint meeting with the Friends 11/1 at 7:30pm. Our agenda will include recruiting active participants for the group.

Director’s Report:

As presented

Ned will be attending the NYLA conference. There are many valuable sessions.

The Village has requested that seniors be able to park below the building. Library staff is accommodating.

There has been no word on our request for a 20 minute parking space out front. The idea of moving the book drop to the street (perhaps a drive up) was raised.

Librarian’s report: None this month

Budget: No discussion

Old Business

We should hear from Plitnick this week. If we do not, the Village has agreed we can move ahead with just the bid we have.
Ned and Paula will be meeting with the school Superintendent Lisa Brady and staffers on October 20th to discuss building a stronger relationship. They will put together an agenda ahead of time and share with the Superintendent. Carolyn suggested they add bringing the art showcase back to the library. She had a conversation with art teacher Mr. Gonzalez about this a HS back-to-school night. Betty suggested they add having teachers lead programming at/for the library.

Maria asked if we had heard about the 2017 budget process. Ned was told it will begin in December. Maria stressed that we need to be prepared going into these discussions so that we are not impacted in the same we were last year. We need to be proactive.

It was determined that we will get dates for a possible day trip to the Yonkers library to visit their MakerSpace. It was determined that daytime was better in that select staff could attend.

New Business:

We received a letter from NYLA requesting that we contribute funds to their legal defense fund in the aftermath of a challenge to Education Law 259(1)(a). Ned was told that by a legal expert on libraries that we cannot and should not make such a contribution. Personal donation and/or support from the Friends is possible. We will share with the Friends at our joint November meeting.

In the mayor’s recent newsletter thanked the rec department for keeping programs up-and-running while the Embassy Center is closed but made no mention of the library, which is hosting many of the programs. Betty wrote a letter to the mayor in complaint. She will forward that letter to the group and ask that Larry Taylor to discuss specifically with the mayor, as he is our Village liaison.

Executive Session:

The meeting went into executive session at 8:17.

Executive session ended at 8:55.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55.