

LaGrange Library Board of Trustees

Budget Meeting

August 23rd, 2018

Present: Erin Hawks, Joanne Pinello Kaley, Anne Lescher, Andrea Mondello, Wendy Bohlinger, Jenny Sung

Staff Present: Mary DeBellis, Library Director

Absent: Stacy Olyha, Stuart Kofsky, Maung Htoo, Keshav Ramji

Meeting Called to Order: 7:01pm

- The sole item on the agenda is the 2019 library budget, continuing the the discussion based on changes made at the August 9th Board meeting.
- Barbarann's renovation proposal will be ready for the September board meeting, so the items on the budget concerning expenses and rent increases will still be estimations.
- **Discussion:**
 - **Rent:**
 - If we do decide to expand, we will be renegotiating the lease, assuming Barbarann is willing to renegotiate.
 - As a not-for-profit, we should not be paying property or school taxes, but it was agreed upon when the current lease was signed.
 - Erin and Mary have a meeting with Town Supervisor Alan Bell on August 30th at 10:00am to update him on the potential space expansion in 2019 and explain why we are asking for a funding increase in excess of the 2% tax cap.
 - Even without taking the extra space, there is a significant rent increase in 2019. The number is based on the percentage increase stated in the lease.
 - The noted figure of \$160K will not cover the rent if we expand. Perhaps the Supervisor will incorporate a contingency rent amount for when we do expand.
 - Anne thinks that the #3 footnote is misleading – she says that it implies that it covers the extra footage but it does not. The footnote needs to say that it does not include the potential expansion.

- It was suggested that we give the Town Supervisor the footage we would be adding and how much we think it will be, adding that we would try to negotiate the price lower.
 - In addition to the footage, the library would need to cover the cost of putting in a staff bathroom and possibly contribute more, depending on what we want for new flooring.
- **Bank Interest:**
 - Proposed 2019 shows a 170% increase from this year. Are we assuming that the bank interest will increase that much because we have that much in the bank?
 - We are going by what we have so far, which is \$74.
 - We added a little more assuming that rates will go up next year.
 - We have been averaging about \$180.
 - The \$74 is YTD, which needs to be changed to reflect the last four months the year.
- **Library Program Fees:**
 - This line is zero because we can't know how many programs will have fees.
- **NYS Bullet Aid:**
 - Library received \$11,500 in 2017, but \$10,000 in 2018. \$10,000 is indicated for 2019 as well.
- **Union Vale:**
 - After discussing this issue at the last board meeting, Mary and Erin took our decision back to the meeting with MHLS.
 - The four libraries servicing UV agreed to ignore the redline items, and have the yearly increase be 2% or the tax cap, whichever is lower.
 - The request for cardholder information will be ignored.
 - The four libraries agreed to create an annual report for the residents of Union Vale, just as the individual libraries do for their constituents.
 - MHLS does not create annual reports so Union Vale would not be able to receive one from them anyway.
 - This counteroffer was sent to the Union Vale Supervisor yesterday; we are still awaiting a reply.
 - The UV budget line will show no increase to stay on the safe side.
- **Fundraising:**
 - We should receive approximately \$21K in 2018 and we are estimating the same for next year.
- **Increases:**
 - Both the adult and youth programming budgets.
 - Disability Insurance.
 - Health Insurance – MVP is planning on a 10.7% increase.

- Printing – due to the cost of mailed newsletter, which the Friends can no longer support.
- Custodial – this cost always increases. We now need to find a happy medium between Abilities first, who we have now, and the people we had before them, who were very expensive.
- **Net Increases:**
 - The income went up by 3.5%, while the expenses went up by 4.9%. The net increase would be 1.4%, however, people do not look at that; they look at the difference in the expenses based on the relation to the tax cap.
- **Proposed Changes:**
 - The wording of footnote #3.
 - Projecting the bank interest to \$100 to account for the rest of the year.
- **Motion to Accept the Budget as Amended:** Anne/ Wendy – All in Favor.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted by Anna Mondello, Board Recorder.