

MARIE FLECHE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
49 S. WHITE HORSE PIKE – BERLIN N.J. 08009
MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Board President Nancy Grover at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

SUNSHINE NOTICE: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice has been given to the Berlin Sun and the Camden Courier Post Newspaper. It has been posted on the MFML Bulletin Board and the website of the Marie Fleche Memorial Library showing the date, place, and time of said meeting.

ROLL CALL: Nancy Grover (Present), Millard Wilkinson, Jr. (Present), Mary Kristen Albertson (Present), Deanna Schuenemann (Present), Corinne Dowdell (Present), Cecilia Kuns (Present), Mayor Rick Miller (Not Present), BCS Alternate Shaitra Flores (Present)

ALSO, PRESENT: Library Director Christine Flynn, Alice Malloy from OLMC and Gail Mottershead from the “Friends of the MFML”

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR BOARD MEETING HELD AUGUST 13, 2024: Motion to approve the AUGUST 13, 2024 minutes distributed via email made by Corinne Dowdell and seconded by Millard Wilkinson. All in favor, motion approved.

REPORT OF THE FRIENDS: The Book ‘N Bake Sale was a success bringing in close to \$1K. Tickets for “The Best of Berlin” basket will be sold at Berlin’s Fall Fest this Saturday, Oct. 12th.

REPORT OF MFML SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Enrollment is steady with 148 in K to 8, and 53 in Pre-K. Tickets for the “Win Big” fundraiser are being sold now through Thanksgiving with the drawing to be held in December. The girls’ volleyball team is up and running, and there will be a girls’ basketball team this year, too. The advanced handbell choir will perform at a special mass in Washington, D.C. at the end of the month.

BCS had major construction over the summer, but the school opened as planned. Instead of having one CER preschool class and one preschool disabled class, there were a total of four preschool classes that started in September. However, the big news is that BCS was awarded a \$1.6M grant to expand the preschool for all three- and four-year-olds in Berlin Borough. Postings for teachers, paraprofessionals and a social worker are being circulated, and if BCS is fully staffed, the new preschool classes will begin in January. To free up space for the new preschool classes in the building, mobile classrooms will be placed at the back of the school for kindergarten.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Corinne Dowdell, Treasurer (Please see Attachment A): Aug. & Sept. 2024

MFML Operating/Checking Account: \$91,199.57
MFML Payroll Account: \$6,013.81
Capital Reserve Account: \$14,157.59
Total: \$111,370.97

For the end of September, we have \$5,414.92 in outstanding checks. Hearing no further questions or discussion, motion to approve the Treasurer's Report made by Millard Wilkinson and seconded by Mary Kristen Albertson. All in favor, motion approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Director, Christine Flynn (Please see Attachment B): Aug. & Sept. 2024
Receipts for Sept. 2024: \$27,761.95
Disbursements for Sept. 2024: \$926.70
Total Sept. Budget Expenses: \$5,414.92

There were no unusual expenses except for the purchase of a new printer. Also, there is no YTD report this month as QuickBooks is in the process of being updated. Motion to approve the Director's Financial Report made by Celia Kuns and seconded by Corinne Dowdell. All in favor, motion approved.

Christine received the 2025 allocation from the state, and we received another substantial increase of \$37K, which represents an 11% increase. Next month, we will have to discuss this increase and how it affects the budget next year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT & COMMITTEE REPORTS: Director Flynn

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: As stated earlier in the meeting, the QuickBooks system is in the process of being updated.

Old Business: The Friends group has less members than in previous years. Also, with our new budget allocation from the state, we will need to discuss the role of the Friends if the central focus shifts from fundraising.

New Business: Christine received a quote to refurbish the fireplace accessories for \$375. Motion to approve the proposal to refinish and refurbish the fireplace made by Corinne Dowdell and seconded by Deanna Schuenemann. All in favor, motion approved.

There was some discussion about providing scholarships as we did previously, but we are not permitted to do so as we are a municipal library.

Nancy has made the decision to step down as President, and she would like for the board members to think about who will take over the role of President. This will be discussed at next month's meeting. Nancy would be happy to assist with the transition and to also remain on the board, but just not as President.

Privilege of the Floor: There are no members of the public present at tonight's meeting.

Motion to Adjourn the meeting was made by Millard Wilkinson and seconded by Deanna Schuenemann at 7:30 p.m. Hearing no further questions or discussion, all in favor, motion approved.

**OUR NEXT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M.**

TRUSTEES: PLEASE CALL NANCY GROVER OR THE DIRECTOR TO CONFIRM IF YOU
WILL BE ATTENDING THE NEXT MEETING.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kristen Albertson
Board Secretary