

Biddeford Pool Community Center
Board of Trustees Meeting
March 21, 2024

Present: Jim Oleson, Ben Pratt (joined late via Zoom), Debbie Melican (joined late via Zoom), Pat Burke, Bill Murray, Diane Noble, Desirée Stallings, Chris Sorrentino, Carol Weldin, Joe Valenza, Sue Maccalous (Library) and Peter McPheeters (BP Coastal Historical Society)

Excused: Carol Bassett

Call to Order:

Jim Oleson

Jim called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm and established that a quorum was present.

Secretary's Report:

Debbie Melican

The minutes from the 2/15/2024 meeting were approved. *Moved: Pat; 2nd Desirée.*

Jim Oleson noted the outstanding work by Debbie in preparing the Secretary's Report.

Treasurer's Report:

Ben Pratt

- Prior to Ben's coming in via Zoom, the following topics were discussed:
 - It was noted that the Bridge Tournament had pulled in a significant amount of money (~\$250).
 - It was noted that the Credit Card to be utilized by BPCC would be arriving within several days.
- Ben came in at approximately 4:20 via Zoom and discussed the following topics:
 - Ben made comments about the expenditure of funds for various BPCC projects and the amount of funds that BPCC has in the bank currently; he stated that some of those funds would go into a Money Market Fund.
 - Ben noted that Joe and Peter currently have signature authority for funds dispersal, pending getting additional Social Security Numbers from current officers of the BPCC.
 - Ben noted the amount of dues and donations received during January and February 2024.

Art Display & Creative Studio:

Diane Noble

- Diane discussed the "Taste of Cuba" event planned for March 24, and noted the number of people who had signed up as of March 21 (25).
- Diane commented about the plans for Artists by the Sea (ABTS):
 - A Virtual Show is scheduled to go on-line in April
 - The in-person ABTS is scheduled to commence on Friday August 9 and last through Sunday August 11 at the Center. It is envisaged that downstairs at BPCC, there will be the regular ABTS show, while upstairs there will be a fundraising auction with 50% of the proceeds going to the artist, and the remaining 50% being split evenly between Friends of Wood Island Light and Fletcher Neck Preserve.
- Diane discussed the Figure Drawing Sessions hosted by Linda Sullivan at the Center during January, February, and March.

Building Committee:

Bill Murray

- Bill provided hard copy on the bids provided by 4 painting firms for painting BPCC. The envisaged costs for labor and material for each of the 4 firms were discussed. *Ben moved that we go with the firm with the lowest bid, provided that they make a commitment to begin in June and*

provide a certificate of insurance for workers and work as well as name BPCC as an additional insured on the policy. Diane 2d. All were in favor.

- Bill spoke at length about the subpar lighting in the stairway and noted that Sue had discussed putting down yellow and black tape for illumination. Jim suggested utilizing brighter LED bulbs for illumination. Bill will explore alternatives for improved lighting.
- Jim noted that our lift has passed inspection and that he and Eve know how to run it. It was noted that the lift will have to pass inspection on a yearly basis. Ben will check that the lift is covered by our insurance.

Communications:

Carol Weldin

- Carol stated that the work on the new website is progressing and that the goal was to have members of the Board “exercise” the website soon. Carol stated that the information on the current website has been incorporated into the new website.
- Carol noted that a key feature of the new website would be the ability of members to update their membership information in a secure Membership Directory.
- MembershipWorks and Stripe will be the mechanisms for how we will collect dues.
- Mailchimp, an email marketing platform, must be integrated with Membership Works. Carol noted that sending out information via Membership Works would be free but that sending out emails via Mailchimp would incur an expense. She wasn’t sure of the expense.
- Various members of the Board volunteered to exercise the new website.
- Jim requested that “selfies” be provided to Carol for incorporation into the new website.
- Chris announced that his term on the Board will be over in October.

Functions:

Eve McPheeters not present

- There was limited discussion of Functions activities. It was noted that the Seaside Fair is scheduled for Saturday, July 13. Cary Frye volunteered to organize the fair.

Education Committee:

Greg Tarbox and Tracy Callahan were not present

- Ben stated that a check had been given to Biddeford High School, for subsequent disbursement.
- Joe noted that the names of college students who are receiving scholarships from BPCC should be publicized in our newsletter.

Library Committee:

Sue Maccalous

- Sue stated that she was continuing to procure books but that “the Library was quiet.”

Sunshine Committee:

Carol Bassett

- Two cards were sent since the February meeting.

BP Coastal Historical Society:

Peter McPheeters

- Peter noted that the old projector died after 5 years, and that a new projector has been purchased. Half the cost of the new projector will come from funds in the General account, and half will come from funds in the BPCHS account.
- Peter wondered whether we could put a hanging system upstairs for hanging artwork and photos. Sue commented on the poor lighting upstairs.

Unfinished Business:

- Jim reminded everyone to come up with ideas for discussion at our Sustainable Planning meeting which was scheduled for April 18, 4 – 6 PM. Jim noted that Desirée had authored a comprehensive list of topics for discussion. It was agreed that the first Sustainable Planning meeting should be limited to two hours and will include all the members of the Board as well as Eve and Peter.

New Business:

- Jim noted that the P & P should be updated with the new dues amounts.
- There was discussion of the \$10 charge for events.
- Pat voiced concerns about people walking, running and biking on the wrong side of the road in Biddeford Pool. She wondered whether BPCC should purchase signs cautioning people about this issue. No decision was made about an expenditure.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting: *Joe moved; 2nd Bill*. The meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Melican

Secretary

(with the FABULOUS assistance of Chris Sorrentino and Pat Burke!)