AKWESASNE LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, September 8, 2022

Board Members in Attendance: Mary Lafrance. President

Kerry Mitchell, Treasurer

Barbara Lazore, Secretary

Lora Lee Lafrance

Missing: Sarah Rourke, V. President

Staff in Attendance: Justin Cree, Director

Mary called the meeting to order at 4:46 P.M.

1. The minutes of June 16, 2022 were reviewed. Barbara made a motion to approve and Lora Lee seconded the motion. Vote 4-0 in favor. Motion passed.
2. Justin introduced his new team. Marla Jacobs, Cultural Manager, and Stacey Mitchell, Gift Shop Coordinator. Marla discussed two upcoming classes, fancy baskets class by Carrie Hill and key chain class by Mae Thomas. Marla mentioned that she will be working Lillian Barton to restart and finish archive are entire collection.
3. Justin stated the Summer Reading programs “Oceans of Possibilities” and “Gnome Around” were successful. He mentioned that the “Oceans of Possibilities” engagement exceeded expectations. Justin also remarked that the “Oceans of Possibilities” really brighten up the library for length of the program.
4. Justin went over the September Calendar.
5. Just gave an update on the 50th Anniversary planning. Justin Mentioned the following:

* Monday Fruit Cups from 3 Feathers Paid by the Cree Family
* Tuesday Taco & Tortas paid by anonymous donation
* Wednesday R-Sons Ice Scream Truck paid by the Family of Mary Lou Phillips
* Thursday Tim Horton donuts day donated by Bears Den
* Friday sandwiches from Jrecks donated by CAA Management

Justin said the total amount of vendors was passing 10 confirmed vendors for the Saturday main event. He mentioned that Iakwa'shatste Youth Fitness would be volunteering their services for the Saturday main event. Justin also confirmed that the NCPR Akwesasne at Work Live is still on for ending the days activities.

1. Doug Smoke put in his two weeks’ notice and saying he was retiring from his position.
2. Justin gave an update for the Aid for Indian Libraries. Justin explained the delay in this year’s application window being disrupted by a ransom ware attack on a New York State server that hosted the Aid application site. New York State was able to regain access to their site and the application window will be opening soon.
3. Justin presented the PTO policy and the reasons to change to it. The current policy wasn’t universally applied, this caused some liability and was the catalyst to move to a new policy. A standard PTO policy would offer the entire the same benefit they had before but with more flexibility, example being that sick days that normally could be used could be converted over to personal time. A standard PTO policy would also simplify the tracking and maintenance, this is achieved by having Gray & Gray administrate this for the team.

Lora Lee mentioned to adopt the PTO policy and Kerry Second. The motion passed 4-0.

1. The second item on the nights agenda that need board approval was granting Marla support for her travel to the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museum Conference this October in California. This request would be for the flight and hotel room already booked for Marla.

It was stated that this request came from a conversation Justin and Marla had, that led Justin to discover that Marla was going to ATALM conference and present on the Wild Center and Akwesasne Cultural Center. Justin mentioned this is the reason he felt the board my want to support Marla and accept the request for travel aid.

Lora Lee made an additional appeal to add $100 dollars to the request for just in case emergency. Barb made a motion to support the request for travel aid to the ATALM conference and Lora Lee second. The motion passed 4-0.

1. The meeting adjourned at 6:06pm and the next meeting was schedule for October 20, 2022 for 4:30pm.