

James:

We have a limited amount of time to do this anyway, so let's just start, I guess. Let's bring this meeting to order.

James:

We have no February minutes available.

Ted:

Do you want to call the meeting to order?

Anybody second?

Amanda:

Yeah, sure. 11:04.

James:

Meeting brought to order. So the minutes for February just aren't available at the moment, I suppose. So we're going to have to motion to revisit the February meeting minutes at the next available meeting and just postponing until then, there's not really much we can do.

Ted:

I'll make the motion.

James:

Right, seconded.

Rebecca:

Aye.

Amanda:

Aye.

James:

Motion for the same for the financial records.

Rebecca:

Second.

Ted:

Nobody motioned. Okay.

James:

I motion.

Ted:

Okay.

Amanda:

Seconded.

James:

All right. Jim's seems to be unable to join us at the moment. I think he's having some technical difficulties so we'll circle back to that. So I guess the best we can do for the moment is long-range planning. Ted, you are the only one that wasn't at that meeting. So why don't we just go over a little bit of what we talked about then just to bring you into the loop on that stuff. So our meeting between Amanda, Rebecca, myself and Jim, we are trying to figure out exactly where we wanted to go with this five year plan and everything kind of circled back to becoming fiscally stable because we're at the point where we're just spiraling for cash.

James:

We barely had enough last year. We barely had enough the year before. We haven't had a sizable increase with the sole exception of the \$40,000 from the town, for the better part of a decade. So we came to the conclusion that the first year of our five year plan was to be dedicated towards making the library fiscally stable. And during the course of that we began discussing buying a new building, considering all the repairs our current building requires. During the course of that conversation, Jim pointed out the fact that that's a multiple year project and that he might not be around to oversee such a project, indicating to us that he has at most two years left at the library, give or take, not a hard number, but we should be aiming within our five year plan to do a search for a new director.

Ted:

That makes sense.

James:

All considering I don't really blame Jim so that's something we have to keep in mind. So, with that, we really had three main objectives at the end of it: become fiscally stable, either find a new building which is dependent upon really what goes on with the golf course, which is now being put up to a vote in November. So that postpones that.

Ted:

I had heard, James, that the golf course in Letchworth Village was actually purchased. I don't know if it's true.

James:

Well, Space put an injunction in. We were going for a 414. They collected enough signatures to put it in for an injunction so that it will be put on the ballot as a final decision for November. So now that won't... It passed. The town voted for it. But, hi, Terry.

Terry:

Hi, James.

Terry, just to recap for you, we were discussing what happened at the last long-term, long range planning meeting, which was basically we said that the first half of the long-term long range planning has to be that we become fiscally stable, i.e., pursue a 414 or other such income, which led to the conversation about our building, either finding a new one or make significant improvements or repairs to it. Jim brought up the fact that he would not be able to be around for a multiple year project that would be that building construction. So now we also will have to seek a new director within the next few years.

Terry:

Okay. About that. I know there was some confusion over the meeting itself and I have it in the minutes that we... wait. The adoption of an ad hoc long range plan meeting committee, the motion, the board will address the creation of a five year long range plan to report it to the state of New York upon completion. I made the motion, James seconded it and then we came up with a date. So it was in there as a regular Board meeting.

James:

We were discussing...

Terry:

That was the minutes... That was what I wrote at the regular Board meeting and then Jim reminded us that it couldn't be part of that, that it had to be... because the whole Board can't sit without it being an open meeting. So we'll have to address that when we get back there that I can undo that motion.

James:

Okay. Yes, we will. But we did have a separate meeting and, to bring you up to date, we're going to have to find a new director within the next two years.

Terry:

Yeah, yeah, I got that. I got that. Do you want me to include that in, I'm taking notes for tonight. Do you want me to include that in?

Terry:

All right. So I won't take the notes. I just want to remind people that [inaudible 00:13:11].

Rebecca:

You want to maybe give Jim a call to try to get him on here?

Jim:

I'm here. Can you hear me?

Rebecca:

Well, we can see your screen.

Ted:

Board of Trustees of The Rose Memorial Library Meeting on 3/25/2020

I want to remind everybody that this version of Zoom limits us to a 40 minute meeting.

Terry:

All right, so I'm good with the understanding of what you guys discussed in your small committee meeting so go from there.

James:

We were speaking of the golf course. Our finding a new building is dependent upon... Since we last spoke Space has made an injunction to the town. They submitted 573 signatures to have the sale of said property brought to a vote in November for the whole town to participate in as part of the November election. That kind of postpones all our building decisions until we find out what's going to happen with that property, if we're going to be involved with a building being put up there or how that will affect the Ambulance Corps. On another note, we don't really have the ability to collect signatures now for a 414 so that also gets put off for the time being.

Terry:

I told you my ex-wife was on the Rockland County press conference about what they were doing about closing things down. I happened to be watching it and, at one point, and I think it was the guy from Space, but they didn't identify him, he asked what would the county be doing about the elections, that he was trying to get signatures to put something on the agenda for November, which is probably this injunction, right? Or stop, whatever words they're using. Ed Day said, "Go back to your town board and see what they want to do about the elections and doing that. And you might also want to contact the Board of Elections." But, that aside, I don't see us being able to go door-to-door or even sitting someplace to do that.

James:

No, I don't think that would be responsible.

Terry:

We can't even sit in front of a supermarket or deli like we did last time.

James:

No. Jim, are you still with us?

Jim:

Yes, Jim is here. There's been some discussion about this among the RCL discussion group that we've been holding and actually today I emailed Grace again about this and she said that nothing has been determined yet, although it still is in discussion in Albany and the idea may be that they would dispense with the petitions. That's what I understood in the conversation. I don't know how strong that can be in the legislature.

Terry:

Yes. That was kind of alluded during that press conference, that that was a decision that was going to be made either by the Board of Elections or by the individual town boards, depending on what you needed to put on your ballot in November.

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Ted:

I think this is something we're actually going to have to come back to because everything is such a mess.

James:

Everything's up in the air until the actual governing bodies figure out what they want to do. It could change by the week, so there's not much we can really do about it in this meeting and, as Ted said before, we do have a 40 minute limit.

Terry:

However, just before we close the conversation, if that happens, I think we have the right to go before the town board and ask for more money from them directly. They've already given us the \$40,000 and say, "Look, we were willing to go before what we did last time, but with a 414 but since we couldn't do that, what would the town be willing to help us increase our budget because we can't continue the way we are."

James:

I think good ideas. I mean all they can say is, "No".

Ted:

We may, depending on this plan, if they pass it, we may be able to apply for a grant because we were close to suspending operations.

Terry:

Good. All right, cool.

Jim:

A grant for what, Ted? A grant for what?

Ted:

A grant to reimburse us for whatever operating expenses we incur while the library is actually closed because of this crisis.

Jim:

Yes, but from whom?

Ted:

That remains to be seen. It hasn't been passed yet, but there is a provision in there for small businesses and other organizations [inaudible 00:18:04] reimbursement so if it passes [inaudible 00:18:08], we'll have maybe a chance. We certainly have the ability to go before the Town Board. We've done the right thing. We protected the community [inaudible 00:18:23] ... help us out. We're just going to have to see, we don't know how it's going to go.

James:

That brings us to the topic of what are we going to do in regard to the operation of the library at this moment?

Ted:

Well, I put forth some ideas. So what do you guys think?

James:

We have the money to continue paying people as of right now. We don't have any expenses. You have our usual expenses and it's not like we're operating a retail store where we are losing it on income, truly. Correct me if I'm wrong, but are we losing any funding because we are closed at the moment?

Jim:

No. Well the minor things you might say are fines and things like that, but that's minor at this point.

James:

Yes, and the fact that we don't even have the lights on, we don't have anything going right now. That might not say it's a wash, but,

Ted:

We still have some utilities that are going.

Terry:

The heat is on. I think what Ted is referring to is that bill coming out of the Congress and that may include us because we had to shut the facility down.

James:

It could, but I want to address what we're going to do about the employees in regard to continuing paying them or putting them on furloughs so they can apply for unemployment.

Terry:

That's what I wanted to ask Jim about because I've never seen an employee contract. I was talking to a gentleman who works at New City and I asked him, "Were they still being paid?" And he said, "Yes, they have to continue to pay us as per our contract."

Jim:

Yes. But their contract is something that we don't have. [inaudible 00:20:32] The employee, I'm trying to think of what the agreements, if they're not, some of them are unions and some of them are in the contract among the...

James:

What is our situation?

Jim:

We don't have anything like that.

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Ted:

I'm sorry, Jim. We addressed this when we fired Ms. Brown. We're an employer at will.

Ted:

I have a quick question before we continue this conversation. When does our pay period end?

Jim:

Friday. I'm sorry, no, Saturday.

Ted:

It's every two weeks, biweekly?

Jim:

That's correct. Ends on Saturday and begins again on Monday.

Rebecca:

Jim, what are other libraries doing?

Jim:

Paying their employees.

Rebecca:

Everybody is.

Terry:

I would say definitely do it.

James:

That's what school districts are doing. That's what it seems like most governmental institutions are doing. I know we're quasi-governmental, but, if we have the ability to, we should keep paying them if we can.

Terry:

If we had the money earmarked for as if we were open. So it's not like we're going to be taking money away from something else that we didn't have.

Terry:

So I feel for at least now we should continue to pay them unless this goes months into the future, but at least until, what's the date that they're ending things on right now or are thinking about ending things on?

Ted:

They're talking about April 12th, Easter.