Dormann Board Meeting Minutes – May 17, 2022

Present: L. Rumsey, E. Stephenson, C. Stephenson, L. Zawrotny, L. Bronson, D. Shugars, H. Schneider (via Zoom)

Guest: R. Sprague

Meeting was called to order at 5:00

Moved to adopt agenda: L. Zawrotny seconded by C. Stephenson, all in favor.

* A thank you was extended to R. Sprague for her many years of service to the Dormann Board. Refreshments were provided and our best wishes were extended to Ruth.

K. Caudill and M. Hutto presented their vision and research for an outdoor classroom on the Dormann Library grounds. The purpose of creating this service would be to increase the quality and quantity of outdoor experiences for the community of Bath.

* Research highlights: exposure to nature creates better stewardship of the environment, nature works as a healer for many conditions, students exposed to nature display less aggression at school, children learn from hands-on loose parts play, opportunities are created to learn how to handle outdoor risks safely
* Ideas so far: classroom will include something for everyone, provide an experience that doesn’t exist in Bath, opportunities to explore nature, possible picnic, pavilion, art, water, garden, sensory paths and climbing areas
* A rendering of possible layouts with notations of existing structures, water lines and electric were presented. Nature Explore Program is a possibility for more information as well as one suggested by B. Hildreth at STLS-
* The outdoor classroom may qualify for construction grant aide through STLS

The board decided to keep investigating the possibility of pursuing an outdoor classroom.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes- D. Shugars seconded by C. Stephenson, all approved.

Correspondence- L. Rumsey reported that we had been notified, through Wheat and Fitzpatrick, of money due us under the Retention Credit Program. (We retained and paid staff during the pandemic shut down.) K. Fitpatrick has already processed the forms and the amount we will receive is close to $111,000 dollars. Wheat and Fitzpatrick’s fees for this will amount to about 11%. Discussion ensued. D. Shugars volunteered to investigate this matter with K. Fitzpatrick as the costs for procuring the money need to be justified.

Building Committee: L. Rumsey reported that the current furnace is not working at all. Hopefully, the new system installation will begin in June

Budget and Finance: No questions upon reviewing Heather’s monthly statements. The investment accounts have taken a hit due to market conditions

Personnel: L. Zawrotny stated that, considering recent staffing developments, the Personnel Committee should meet to complete a policy audit. L. Rumsey will send current policies regarding staff, hiring, etc. to L. Zawrotny for review so that she can set up a meeting with the committee

Public Relations: C. Stephenson reported that the Haverling Kindergarten had visited the library and hopes to see an article in the upcoming Haverling newsletter as she has submitted the information to the school

Lifelong Learning: No report

Old Business: none

New Business: We still need to fill the Board seat vacated by E. Simms- L. Rumsey will forward a list of possible members to L. Bronson

Public Budget meeting June 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room

Next regular Board Meeting: June 21, 2022

Meeting Adjourned: D. Shugars moved to adjourn at 6:30.