**Tappan Spaulding Library Board Meeting Minutes: 4/11/2021**

**Call to order:** 7:30 PM

**Present:** Patti Schafer, Melanie Coombs, Erin Chapman, Bonnie Mider, Lisa Proctor

**Village Representative:** None

**Guests:** None

**Director Report:** See attached Director's report. Turning wifi back on after vandalism. Discussing cameras. Discussing Reopening.

**Village Representative Comments:** None

**President Report:**

**Treasurer Report:** None

**Approved Bills:**

Amazon: 652.02

Spectrum: 64.90

NYSEG: 47.42

Hollenbecks: 12.99

**April 2021 - Director’s Report**

Bills

Amazon: 652.02

Spectrum: 64.90

NYSEG: 47.42

Hollenbecks: 12.99

Please, please, please find a quick moment to stop in and sign the bills if you haven’t yet! The village needs to get last year’s bills filed and taken care of. Pam told me she had a call in with the comptroller to try and figure out what to do with our bills and what the specific rules are because they’re still unsigned from last year!

Vandalism/Security Cameras

I sent out an email explaining what had happened to the library - door handle ripped off, spray paint on the steps. We also had one more incident. Some kids were hanging out on the side of the library. When I left that night, I went over to where they had been and there were two take-out clamshells with wings dumped everywhere. I noticed that the outside outlet plastic cover was open. Must be they were hanging out there charging their phones. I went and bought a lock for the plastic cover. When I checked on it a day or so later, the cover was broken at the top so it could be opened with the lock still on it. I called and filed another police report - they tacked it on to the previous report. I guess the story is that people had seen a kid hanging around the library and took pictures of him. The police went to his house and spoke to his father. I happen to know of this family - they’re neighbors of my aunt’s. Unfortunately, this kid does not have a great home life. On Thursday, I noticed this kid sitting at the picnic table and decided to just go chat with him. He was there with another kid. I introduced myself as the librarian and said I just wanted to clear the air. I told them I wasn’t blaming them in particular and that I’d love to turn the wifi back on for everyone to use. I told them they are most welcome to hang out at the picnic table, use the wifi, etc, (because that’s part of what the library is for!) but asked that they just please be respectful and put their trash in the trash bin. Both kids were very respectful and receptive and agreed to pass on this info to their friends. Since then, I haven’t seen them around too much. I just figured I’d rather have them know who’s inside and it’s better to be kind and welcoming!! Hopefully that worked!

So, that brings us to surveillance cameras. I talked with Pam and she said that there’s not really a village security system set up. I was originally thinking since the library is technically village property that they could take care of the cameras. Pam said that we would get it done much faster if we did it ourselves. I’ve been researching some cameras that have the least amount of installation maintenance - battery operated or solar powered and wireless. I found some that could work. I need to talk with Bill Foster before purchasing to see what the rules for the building are as far as installing cameras. The question is - Do we want just one camera on the front of the building? Or do we want them around the building? What is the goal of the camera? If we are trying to deter vandalism, I’d think we’d want them around the building. If we just want security on the front door, then we could just get the one camera.

My plan is to talk to Bill and contact other libraries and see what they use. There are so many cameras out there and after researching the Blink security system for over an hour, I discovered that they don’t really work well in colder weather. Very frustrating after I thought I had a good system that would be minimal cost/effort for us!

Book Sale

Are we going to have a book sale this year? We have so many books down in our basement!! I think it must be spring cleaning time because people have been leaving boxes of books on the steps. I’ve also been getting a lot of calls about whether we’re accepting book donations. I’ve put a sign on the window and posted on social media that we are not accepting books at this time because we just don’t have the space. I’ve never done a sale, I’m sure it’s a lot of work. I was thinking we could look into high school volunteers to help at least carry the books upstairs!! Thoughts?

Minimum Standard Hours Beginning June 1st

By June 1st, we need to be open our minimum standard hours, which I believe is 20 hrs based on our population. I did ask Carol if she was interested in coming back and she said she was on the fence about it. I told her that I’d love to have her back as there are still some things I could learn from her!! Our time together was cut short by the pandemic!