Special Meeting to discuss lighting January 13, 2017 (Final Minutes)

Attendees: Beth Forgione, Beverly Mutrie, Linda Coe, Amy Magnarelli and Barbara Tosiano

Amy called the meeting to order at 4:00.

One of the Library employees had to leave work due to a severe headache believed to be caused by the brightness of the new LED lights. The problematic lights were the square lights in the central section of the library. The employee saw an ophthalmologist and was determined to have an underlying medical issue which might be contributing to her problem with the brighter lighting. All employees were surveyed, and everyone else feels that the lighting is very good. (Especially the beading group.)

Barbara contacted Melissa Lloyd, the electrical engineer from Prism Energy Services who designed the lighting plan for the LED light conversion, to determine if there was a problem with the lighting. Melissa measured the light level of the library with current LED fixtures and found that the light levels measured between 50-60 foot candles which meets, but does not exceed the Illuminating Engineering Societies’ industry standards. In other words, the library lights are not “too bright” by industry standards.

Melissa suggested that we may be able to install a dimmer on the lights in the central area of the library for an additional cost of $1074. Mark Sikorski (the town building inspector) agreed that this may be a good way to handle this issue and that the cost appeared to be in line with the needed work. We discussed that while this is an expensive fix to accommodate one employee, we may want dimmer lighting in the room for certain programs (movies, wine tasting, etc). Beverly made a motion to accept the light dimming proposal suggested by Melissa Lloyd. Beth seconded it. All in favor.

We will work with the employee to see what can be done to accommodate her so she return to her job. We can allow the employee to wear a hat or dark glasses indoors if that will prevent her from getting a headache. Barbara has also suggested that the employee can move to another area of the library to do her work. Barbara will call the employee’s doctor and see if s/he will share any specific recommendations for accommodations.

Year end treasurer’s report- The social security amount provided in the town’s expenditure still seemed a bit short of what was expected. Beth worked with the town bookkeeper to correct this line item to a new number, much closer to the expected amount. The town agreed to go with this amount as the final figure for reporting purposes. We will returning about $1300 of salary money to the town at the end of the year, so they can take the difference out of that amount if it is deemed a further adjustment is needed. The auditors will be here on Monday to review year end financials.

Beverly made a motion to adjourn at 4:50, Beth seconds, all in favor.