

Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED
July 18, 2023

Present: Trustees: Chair Susan Gaudiello, Leigh Elliott, Karolina Bodner, Robert Drew, Karen Towne. Trustee Alternate Melanie Haley. Library Director, Liz Bolton. Select Board Representative, Dan Mannschrek.
Absent: Trustees Susan Frankel and Lydia Cupp.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair, Susan Gaudiello. Susan announced that Alternate Melanie Haley will be voting in place of the absent Trustees.

Minutes: Leigh made a motion to accept the 6/20/23 Trustee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed.

Donations: Karen made a motion to accept the June donations of \$3381, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed. This total included a donation of \$2700 by First Seacoast Bank for the Summer Reading Program (SRP).

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Susan F. was absent but sent the board the June Trustee and Director's Financial reports by email for review. Leigh made a motion to accept the June Treasurer's report, seconded by Karolina, and the motion passed.

Select Board Report: Dan stated that during the Board planning meeting, there was a discussion about the purchasing of 15 acres behind Calef's for approx. \$1.2 million for a possible town center/library/senior center plus recreation and other development. This purchase would necessitate passing a warrant article in the March election. There was a discussion of proposing a joint building bond in March for the library and public safety building.

Friends' Report: As Lydia was absent, Susan G. reported that the Books in Bloom fundraiser held at the end of the SRP was successful and the funds raised will be shared by the Friends and the Barrington Bloomers.
*The Friends will send out information about the annual Mums fundraiser. Orders will be taken in August and the mums will be delivered in September.

Foundation update: The Foundation will continue their focus on public information and fundraising strategies.

Susan shared the information about the potential purchase of the Town Center property discussed by the Select Board, and the option to move the library there instead of the Ramsdell site.

After reviewing pros and cons of locations, the Foundation voiced the unanimous opinion that we stay with the plans for the Ramsdell location.

Director's Report: Liz reported that Resilient Buildings did an energy audit of the entire building on June 20 and will send a report.

*Leigh made a motion for up to \$3000 be spent on a fall Marketing Mailer to be developed by the Library staff, seconded by Robert, and the motion passed. The intent is to inform residents

who don't use social media about the Library services, hours, etc.

*Holly Decker from the Congregational Church inquired whether the dozen booklets remaining that were prepared for the 300th celebration could be sold by the library.

*Leigh made a motion to allow the Church to sell their Centennial Booklets at a table outside the Library, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed.

The Library is busy with summer reading and circulation is up about 5% from last June.

NHDB (Downloadable Books Via the State Library) circulations are up 17% and the cost for this service will be rising in 2024.

It was suggested that a summary be written for the Library website explaining to patrons how much is charged for each book for this service.

*The vacuum cleaner was repaired by Auger's for \$171.

*At the July 7th staff meeting, past and future programming was discussed, changing hours in September, and facilitating programs for middle schoolers/young teens. The next monthly Library Staff Meeting will be held on August 7th.

*The Summer Reading Program volunteers have been very helpful and much needed.

*Liz is researching the possibility of hiring a substitute library clerk that would be trained to fill in for absent staff.

Old Business:

Trustee Board Planning Meeting: A proposed agenda for Board Planning Meeting to be held on August 15 was drafted by Susan F., Susan G., and Melanie and presented. Liz will get input from the staff and Wendy and Alex are invited to attend.

Leigh made a motion for up to \$150 to be spent on refreshments for the Board Planning Meeting Aug. 15, 5:30 to 7:30, seconded by Robert, and the motion passed.

Library Building Project: Susan G., Liz, and 2 Foundation members will visit the Peterborough Library July 25 to discuss their successful fundraising efforts and voter approval of their building addition.

Robert also suggested they might visit the new Atkinson Library.

The Trustee Board reviewed the pros and cons and also decided by consensus to continue support for the Ramsdell site.

Susan G. will update the Select Board on Aug. 14 on progress of the new library building project. The Library Building Committee hopes to present building project costs to the Select Board in October.

New Business: Leigh made a motion to reschedule the next Trustee Meeting to August 29, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed.

Robert made a motion to adjourn at 7:32, seconded by Karen, and the motion passed.

Special Trustee Board Planning Workshop August 15, 2023 5:30 to 7:30 pm
Regular BPL Trustee Board Meeting rescheduled to August 29, 2023 5:30 to 7:00pm

Minutes recorded by Karolina Bodner, Secretary