Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023 Called to Order 7:09pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chair
Carrie Murray, Recording Secretary
Betty Henderson, Vice Chair
Laura Brink
Mary Gillis
Gerry Haas
Gail Bergin
Jake O’Neill
Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Absent: Barbara McLaughlin

Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- Minutes of the meeting held on November 21, 2022 were reviewed by the Board. MOTION to approve the November 21, 2022 minutes was made by Mary, seconded by Gerry, and accepted unanimously, Carrie abstained.

Chairman’s Report
- Town Clerk says papers will be available for those seeking reelection. Betty will not run again. Jake and Barbara will take papers out for reelection.
- Amy, the Children’s Librarian had a baby named Annie Ellen. Congratulations!

Library Director’s Report
- Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports: Financial Report is up to date. We are in good shape. We are halfway through the year and all is going well. October, November, and December stats – excellent. There has been more circulation and people coming into the library than in the previous year. We are up more than 6% in circulation. Museum Passes are being used.
• Staff Update: We have a new baby! Yay Amy! We have a new reference librarian - Robert Goodale, working 17 ½ hours a week. We have a good librarian sub list to help out on Saturdays.
• Friends Update: The Friends did well on the gift cards fundraiser.
• OCLN Update: Deb is on a committee working with the Overdrive collection.

Building Issues
• Roof Project: The roof project is almost done. It did not leak in the recent rainstorm.
  o Ceiling Tile Replacement – almost complete. Working on the punch list now.
• Electrical: Still waiting to get new lights for the circulation desk.
• Plumbing: Greg Gouthro is looking to get us a quote for a water filling station.

Current Library Issues
• Program Update:
  o Children programs: We are visiting school classrooms
  o Playgroups are taking off. We are happily busy.
  o Adult programs: Matt York – Songs of the Highway Men may come in. It would be sponsored by the Cultural Arts Council. First Saturday in March
  o Craft night will return in March
  o Non-Fiction book club will read “The Library Book” in March.
  o Pop-Fiction will read “The Giver of Stars” in March.
• 25th Anniversary Planning:
  o Sunday 2/5/22 at 2pm Steve Rudolph Trio doing swing music as part of the 25th anniversary year. 1:30 - 3:30pm Balloon twisting and fun in the Children’s Room with Ed Popielarczyk
  o Have monthly events to celebrate:
    ▪ March – Abington Reads – “The Library Book”
    ▪ Craft Night
- Word Game Night
- National Bring Your Child to Library Day – Feb. 4
- May – Celebration of the Garden
- June – Summer Reading
- Highlight certain rooms in the library
- FY24 Budget - Henry and Deb go to the Finance Meeting on Wednesday night

Old Business
- LSTA Grant Options: We are thinking of applying for the grant. Looking to get keynote author to come to the library.

New Business
- COVID Policies Repeal – We can now repeal the policy. **MOTION to repeal existing Covid Policy was made by Jake, seconded by Gerry, and accepted unanimously.**
- Unattended Children Policy Update – Reviewed the update.
- Article for Special Town Meeting – We may be requesting funding for the union raise. **MOTION to authorize the Director, if necessary, to insert an article in the Special Town Meeting on behalf of the Trustees. Made by Gail and seconded by Laura.**
- Articles for Annual Town Meeting - **MOTION to authorize the Director, if necessary, to insert an article in the Annual Town Meeting on behalf of the Trustees. Made by Carrie and seconded by Mary.**
- Other:
  - The Capital Plan – has come back and Deb is reviewing it.
  - Deb will report back regarding the Annual Report.

Next Meetings: February 13, 2023 and March 13, 2023 (Town Meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2023)

Motion to adjourn at 8:20pm was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.