

Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED
August 20, 2024

Present: Trustees: Chair Susan Gaudiello, Lydia Cupp, Susan Frankel, Karolina Bodner, Robert Drew, Melanie Haley, Ezra Hodgson. Trustee Alternates, Karen Towne and Richard Campagnone, Library Director Liz Bolton, and Select Board Representative Dannen Mannschreck.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm allowing an extra half hour to discuss the draft of the 2025 Library budget.

Public Comment: Lydia announced that the Barrington Bloomers have decided that they will not accept responsibility for landscaping at the new library and suggested that a new Library Garden Volunteer group be organized. Individual Bloomers will continue to volunteer and advise as needed.

Minutes: Susan F. made a motion to accept the July 23, 2024 Trustee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Robert, and the motion passed.

Donations: Robert made a motion to accept the July donations of \$4,473, seconded by Susan F., and the motion passed. This amount included \$2000 from The Friends of the Library for the Library direct mailings, and the First Seacoast Bank \$2,700 donation to cover the cost of the Summer Reading Program.

Treasurer's Report: Melanie gave the July financial reports including the interest accrued on the FSB and TD Bank CD accounts up for renewal. There was a discussion of the interest rates on different CD's, the shorter month ones having a higher interest rate. Melanie made a motion to renew the FSB CD for 7 months and the TD Bank CD for 2 months, seconded by Lydia, and the motion passed.

Select Board Liaison: Dannen reported that the contract with the Recreation Dept for construction of the interior of the present Rec/Library building has been extended for one year. That means the Library will not have to close as long during construction and contents will only have to be moved once. Susan Frankel will be presenting her resignation from the Trustee Board to the Town Clerk.

Director's Report:

The Summer Reading Program Carnival Grand Finale held August 17 was a great success with increased participation from past years.

*With the anticipated return of the Morning Library Assistant, the Library will be fully staffed.

*The department Budgets are due to the Town Sept. 9. Susan G., Melanie and Liz will present the Library budget to the ABC board on Oct. 29, taking into consideration the unknowns and moving parts concerning the new building project. After review the ABC will send their recommendations to the Select Board.

New Business: Liz presented the first draft of the 2025 Library budget to the Board. It was reviewed by the Trustees line by line indicating any changes from the 2024 budget. A decision was made to add \$1000 to the digital materials and try Overdrive Advantage on a trial basis.

The Trustees agreed that the customary addition to the Tech warrant article should be requested. The Town Administrator is considering a new capital reserve warrant article for maintenance of all town buildings including the new library. If such an article is not forthcoming, the trustees may need to propose a capital reserve specifically for the library to cover major expenses in the future such as repaving the parking lot.

The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Town signed in 2011 will be updated to reflect responsibilities of the Town and new Library concerning the building maintenance, parking lot, utilities etc. After negotiating the MOU with the Town Administrator, the draft will be presented to the Trustees at the September meeting and then to the Select Board for approval.

Library Building Project Update:

The Foundation has produced a handout to inform Barrington residents of progress to date on the new Library building project with an estimated Summer 2025 opening.

Library Bond Funds were received August 7 and Bauen will be receiving and finalizing bids from subcontractors in September for interior work to be done.

A meeting will be scheduled to review the owner's responsibilities and the Project budget.

The next monthly meeting of the Building Project Committee is Sept. 5th.

The Board of Trustees scheduled a special work session Oct. 1st at 5:30 to review the progress of the new Library building project and the budget for "owner's responsibilities" which include moving expenses, phone, security and furniture.

Old Business: Work is continuing to research and finalize a Custodial Services Contract.

Susan Frankel made a motion to adjourn at 6:56, seconded by Lydia, and the motion passed.

Next Barrington Library Trustee Board Meeting September 17, 2024 at 5:30 PM
Special Trustee Board Work Session Oct. 1, 2024 at 5:30

Minutes recorded by Karolina Bodner, Secretary