

Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED
April 13, 2021

Lindsey Maziarz, as Chair of the Barrington Public Library Trustees, declared that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Trustees as a public body are authorized to meet electronically. Trustees in attendance, Library Director, and Select Board Representative participated remotely through zoom, and all motions were voted on by a roll call vote.

Present: Trustees: Lindsey Maziarz, Leigh Elliott, Susan Frankel, Karolina Bodner, Lydia Cupp, Karen Towne, and Robert Drew. Melissa Huette (Library Director), and George Bailey (Select Board Representative).

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Lydia made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes from 3/09/21, seconded by Karen, and it was passed by a roll call vote. (Susan and Karolina abstained-absent 3/09/21)

Susan made a motion to accept donations of \$332.44, seconded by Lydia, and the motion was passed by a roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report: Susan presented the Treasurer's report with end of quarter summary of revenues. It was noted that anticipated expenses over the next few months will include NHLTA membership and annual conference fees as well as architect design expenses. Karen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Robert, and it was passed by a roll call vote.

Public Comment: George reported that COVID 19 procedures were updated by the Select Board according to state protocols, including eliminating some requirements for quarantining after travel.

Dan Mannshreck reported that about 1/3 of students may be attending summer school. Connor is looking for new SB meeting space with hopes for a live feed for caller input.

Friends report:

Lydia discussed the perennial plant and book fundraiser that will be held Sat., June 5 (8 to 12) outdoors in the Chapel of the Nativity parking lot. Volunteers are also needed to do the set up June 4 at 2:00. *Due to the jumping worm invasion, donated plants must have washed roots that are planted in sterile soil.*

A date will be set for the Books and Blooms and Book Bag fundraisers later in the summer. Residents are reminded to set aside books in good condition for the Book Bag fundraiser. The next Friends zoom meeting is April 28 at 7 pm.

Foundation update: The website continues to be updated and includes information on the *Build on Yesterday, Envision Tomorrow* initiative and subcommittees. Roger Gingrich will continue as President. Outreach is continuing to Barrington groups to discuss their views on a new library and ways the Library can enhance their missions. Karen asked the Trustees to think of the role of the Foundation and how it can best support them with the Library mission

and projects. The next Foundation meeting is Thurs., April 22th.

Director's Report: Melissa discussed the SB updated COVID 19 policies stating that quarantining after domestic travel will no longer be required. However, it is recommended that staff voluntarily work from home when possible after travel out of New England. The staff will discuss extending hours open to the public as there is a greater need for computer use for tax preparation. There will continue to be a limit on the number of patrons allowed in the library.

*The staff continues to look for ways to communicate and remain connected with the community. The April Community Art Puzzle Project is providing an opportunity for all residents to define themselves and their interests in their piece which will be displayed as a part of the whole.

*Melissa will be meeting with Amanda Serfass, Calef's new general manager, to discuss a coordinated reading incentive program as an addition to their little lending library.

*The state library has received a \$2.3 million ARPA grant and is encouraging libraries to research their eligibility and changing needs of constituents. It has been suggested that we consider purchasing better P.A. equipment for the increased outdoor programs and updating technology. (Strafford now has a way for residents to access town meetings from FM stations in their car using an outside mic to participate.)

*The Friends Group was awarded a \$1000 Love Your Community Grant from NECU which will be used to help create a community Choose Your Own Adventure Story for the Tails and Tales Summer Reading Program. (We are hoping for help from our local writer Marie Harris.) Melissa and Wendy also applied for a \$500 grant to purchase materials for STEAM To GO kits for Kindergarten through middle school patrons.

*The BPL/Rec Eggstravaganza Around Town Egg Hunt had over 150 enthusiastic kids and 100 adults participating. Local businesses donated prizes and 7 baskets were given away.

*Staff annual reviews have been completed and all paperwork has been submitted to Town Human Resources. Pay increases will take effect on April 5th. The staff will work collaboratively to implement some of the ideas suggested during interviews.

*Autumn is working on outreach to meet needs of patrons with disabilities or dementia.

Old Business:

Staff recognition-Melissa will provide a list of staff birthdays. Trustees will provide bouquets of garden flowers and purchase them later in the season.

Trustees will meet with SMP architect Jason to discuss options for a new library. It is acknowledged that circumstances have changed greatly due to the COVID impact on budgets and rising cost of building materials. Trustees will present the decisions of this meeting with the Foundation, Friends, staff etc. and a decision will be made on how to move forward with the new library proposal.

New Business:

End 68 Hours of Hunger recipients will receive additions for the summer bags of sunscreen, etc donated by the School Foundation. A suggestion was made to provide 2 books for each of 7 middle school students. BMS librarian Diane St. Jean will be asked for suggestions on titles. Lindsey made a motion to purchase 14 books for the End 68 Hours of Hunger Summer Bags not to exceed \$350. Karen seconded the motion and it was passed on a roll call vote.

Those trustees planning to attend the annual 2 day NHLTA virtual conference should register online by April 26 and send their invoice to Melissa who will submit the \$25 registration fee.

Trustee Election of Officers: All current officers agreed to serve another term. (Lindsey- Chair, Leigh- Co chair, Susan-Treasurer, Karolina and Karen- Co Secretaries.) Robert made a motion to keep the same slate of officers. Lydia seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote.

The Trustee Board decided to continue meeting on zoom.

Susan made a motion to adjourn at 8:26. Karen seconded the motion and it passed on a roll call vote.

Next meeting May 11th, 2021 6:30 pm

Minutes submitted by Karolina Bodner, Secretary