

Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED
May 11, 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 2 guests 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 Library Foundation members, Rebecca Butcher, Vice Chair, and Nick Phaneuf, Director of Communications..

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

Robert made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes from 4/13/21, seconded by Lydia, and it was passed by a roll call vote. Minutes from the Special Trustees meeting 5/03/21 will be reviewed and voted on at the June 15 meeting.

Karen made a motion to accept donations of \$449.70, seconded by Susan, and the motion was passed by a roll call vote.

Treasurer's Report: Susan presented the Treasurer's Report, and then informed the Board that the 30 year Treasury Bond will mature on August 2022. It has been stable but will no longer have a 7% interest rate.

Lindsey made a motion to allow Susan, as Treasurer, to research the best options for reinvesting this money. It was seconded by Lydia, and it was passed by a roll call vote. Karen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Robert and it was passed by a roll call vote.

Foundation Update: Rebecca and Nick presented a slide show with an overview of their Community Engagement Listening Sessions which were held to provide broader community input and will be used to inform and guide the Trustee's revised library plan. Five sessions were held with 34 people and involved various community groups and the ABC board, and there are plans for continued sessions with more groups. Participants were asked a variety of questions including how their members used the library, the function of the library and how it fits into the future of Barrington. Life long learning programs, technology access and support, the desire for a larger multi purpose space, and cost were discussed, along with coordination of services with the schools. A desire was expressed for an assessment by the Select Board of the Town's future needs and a possible timeline which might help all departments plan projects.

Friends report:

Lydia discussed the Perennial Plant and Book sale fundraisers that will be held Sat., June 5 (8am to 12pm) 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. Posters have been placed around town and the library website also has details about these fundraisers.

Director's Report:

Technology Plan: Melissa explained that it is important that this plan is readable and understandable to patrons. The plan includes the process for assessing technology needs, updates, and future replacements which are purchased with Capitol Reserve Funds. Staff will continue to review and edit the plan for approval at the June meeting.

COVID-19 Update: The library is now open to normal hours. The number of patrons in the building is restricted due to lack of space for suggested distancing, with continued mask and sanitation protocols in place. Curbside service continues to be available. The Governor's Universal Best Practices effective 5/8/21 replaces the Safer at Home Guidelines. There was a discussion on how to expand the outside spaces for more patron sitting areas (accessible to wifi). The Friends are discussing the beautification of these areas with plants.

Fines and Fees: The library will continue to be fine free for the present although there is a "conscience" jar accepting donations. There is a rough draft for the circulation policy on the website that outlines the process for dealing with greatly overdue or damaged books.

Upcoming \$2,007 Grant from ARPA: The staff is reviewing grant guidelines and ideas on how to use this money, and looking for community input. There is also a competitive grant process for future funds.

2021 Budget Year to date: Melissa enclosed the expenditures and remaining funds. Donna Wood has been hired as the new Human Resource Director at the Town Hall..

The community puzzle art project is near completion, April Reading Challenge books are due to be entered online, and plans continue for the Summer Reading program.

7:34 Lindsey was excused & Leigh, Vice Chair, continued conducting the Trustee Meeting.

Old Business:

Birthday Buddies: Trustees have requested input from library staff on their interests and hobbies to get to know them better.

Investment Policy: This policy needs to be reviewed every year. Susan made a motion to accept the policy, seconded by Leigh and it was passed by a roll call vote.

Summer Bags with School Foundation: The Trustees will purchase books to include in the backpacks of 7 middle school students. Each student will be given 2 books, with one being a graphic novel. A total of 14 books will be purchased. Trustees will use the Great Stone Face and Isinglass Reads to select the books.

*A special Trustee meeting will be scheduled with Foundation and Friends to further discuss the library building project.

*Reminder: NHLTA virtual Spring conference will be held 9:30 to 3:00 on May 12th and 13th.

New Business:

Robert made a motion to return the Trustee Meetings to the 3rd Tuesday, seconded by Susan and it passed on a roll call vote.

A suggested template for Liaisons regarding reporting of BPL meetings by the Select Board Representative to the SB will be reviewed and voted on at the June meeting.