

Barrington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED  
July 27, 2021

The Barrington Library Trustees met in person at the library.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

Robert made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes from June 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Lydia, and the motion was passed by a roll call vote.

Lydia made a motion to accept donations of \$5,287.00 the motion was seconded by Karen, and the motion was passed by a roll call vote. Melissa noted that the money was placed in the wrong account and has since been corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lindsey presented the Treasurer's report with the transactions in the absence of Susan Frankel, Treasurer. Lydia made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. It was seconded by Karen and passed by a roll call vote.

**Public Comment:** George Bailey, Select Board Liaison for the Trustees gave an update on the status of the pending construction of the Town Hall. The clearing of three acres on the proposed site will begin in two weeks. George added that the town is waiting to hear about funds they were awarded from State Rep. Pappas. He mentioned that the Select Board had received a letter from the Barrington Library Foundation stating their intent to pass on a warrant for the new library in March 2022. He added that a letter from the Library Trustees should be sent since they are the elected officials. Lindsey Maziarz, Trustee Chair volunteered to send the letter to the Select Board. The Libraries Budget cycle is due and the presentation by Melissa Huette, Library Director will take place on October 18.

**Friends Report:** Lydia reported that a pot luck for the Friends will be held at the Cafasso's home on August 4. The annual Books and Blooms Silent Auction will be held on August 13 at the close of the Summer Reading Program. The Barrington Bloomers are helping with this event.

**Foundation update:** The Barrington Library Foundation has mailed letters to the Library Donors explaining the plan to bring forth a new library plan to voters in March 2023. The same letter was sent to library supporters by the BLF via Mail Chimp.

**Director's Report:** Melissa included a copy in the Trustees packet on the Update on the Library written by Susan Frankel and Karen Towne. Once approved, the info will be added to the BPL's website. Edits can be sent to Susan Frankel.  
The Touch a Truck event was a huge success. A motion was made by Robert to reimburse for miscellaneous expenditures, not to exceed \$75. The motion was seconded by Lydia. Melissa asked for an additional Trustee meeting in August to work on the 2022 library budget. The budget must be submitted to Conor, Town Administrator by September. Trustees chose to

to meet on Wednesday, August 11 at 6:30 pm at the library. The meeting will be posted on the library website.

Since Christmas and New Year's fall on a Saturday in 2021, the library staff will have to decide which day they will take off so they are reimbursed for holiday pay. The decision will be made at a later date. NYE falls on a Friday and the library typically closes at 4 pm, rather than 6 pm.

The new town travel policy is following CDC guidelines relative to the need for isolation after travel. The motion to adopt the updated travel policy was made by Robert and seconded by Karen.

Melissa provided updates on the volunteer situation at the library. The current volunteers will remain, but there is no need for any additional volunteers at present.

The Fine Free policy will remain in effect. Melissa did some research on the amount owed.

The consensus of the Trustees present was that all back fines should be wiped off the books. The point of the decision was to make the library more accessible for more patrons. Patrons have been donating to the Donation Jar on the desk.

Circulation Policy: see Library website for recent changes.

Monetary Donations: The library policy currently states that monetary donations are not accepted at library events. Melissa recommended that we make a motion to make an exception at this year's end of the Summer Reading program event. The Working Dog Foundation is scheduled to present on August 13. The Foundation supplies trained dogs to police departments. The Barrington Police Dept. lost their dog to retirement. This will enable them to get another K-9 in the future. A motion was made by Lydia to make an exception to the policy for this one event, Lindsey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A second round of ARPA grant submissions will begin in August. Several ideas were proposed by Melissa encompassing three categories. To be discussed at the August meeting.

**Old Business:** Lindsey moved on to new business in the interest of time.

**New Business:** Lindsey received a letter from a library patron who was upset about the library removing the mask mandate. The patron has met in person with Melissa and Lindsey responded to her concerns. The library will continue to follow CDC and ALA guidelines. Lindsey announced that she is interested in stepping down as Chair of the Trustees. The decision will be discussed at the August meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the public meeting by Karen and seconded by Robert. The motion was approved by a roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Trustees entered into nonpublic session at 8:21 pm. Motion to leave nonpublic session was made by Lindsey Maziarz and seconded by Robert Drew. Adjourned at 8:34 pm

**Next Meeting August 17, 2021 6:30 pm.**

Minutes recorded by Karen Towne, Trustee Co-Secretary. Submitted August 2, 2021

