

Barrington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED  
March 9, 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, Select Board Representative, and 1 guest participated remotely through zoom, and all motions were voted on by a roll call vote.

**Present:** Trustees: Lindsey Maziarz, Leigh Elliott, Lydia Cupp, Karen Towne, Robert Drew, Melissa Huetter (Library Director), George Bailey (Select Board Representative), and guest John Wallace (potential Alternate Trustee)

**Absent:** Karolina Bodner, Susan Frankel

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

Lydia made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes from February 9, 2021. The motion was seconded by Robert, and the motion was passed by a roll call vote.

Lydia made a motion to accept donations of \$ 1,079.41, the motion was seconded by Karen, and the motion was passed by a roll call vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lindsey presented the Treasurer's report with the February 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 asked to address the board about discussions held at the last meeting. He mentioned that he had spoken to Connor, Town Administrator. He made note of a board member posting misinformation regarding the town hall construction on Barrington Connections. He wanted it on record that he has been a supporter of the new library. Karen Towne reiterated that board members have every right in a democratically elected body to address our concerns and misgivings about his conduct at our meeting and of the Select Board as well. The matter was resolved with involved parties agreeing to be respectful and professional during exchanges. George gave an update on the town hall approval status. The voter turnout at the town election today was low. The Select Board meetings will be aired on Facebook from now on.

**Friends Report:** Lydia reported on the Friend's plans for the Annual Perennial Sale to be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021. A Grab Bag Book Sale will be held at the same time in the parking lot of the Chapel of the Nativity from 8 am to 12 pm. Robert volunteered to contribute a few boxes of books as a donation. Members are encouraged to save books for this important fundraiser. Book and Blooms will be held at the end of the summer. Cut flower donations from gardens will be appreciated. Melissa Huetter has several ideas about the project. A sewing machine was purchased at Auger's in memory of Trudi Googins, a dedicated library volunteer and Friend's member. Once a loan policy and criteria are completed, the machine will be available at the library to be signed out by patrons.

**Foundation update:** The BLF website has been updated and items will continue to be added by the Website Content Development Committee. *Listening Session* outreach will continue with Barrington groups to discuss their views on a new library and ways the Library can enhance their missions. Meetings with SMP will resume in April to explore library designs. The next Foundation meeting is March 25, 2021.

**Director's Report:** Melissa reported that today is the third anniversary of her hiring as Library Director. She found it fitting that the town vote was being held on her anniversary. She said that the ALA and the NH Library Association are showing no signs of re-opening libraries to pre-pandemic hours, even though Covid 19 case numbers are down state-wide. Barrington Library patrons have asked if the library would consider opening up for computer use and browsing on Saturdays. Patrons have a need for increased computer use during tax season. The Trustees decided to close on Saturdays except for curbside pickup early in the pandemic. Lydia made a motion to re-open Saturdays and Leigh seconded the motion. Trustees voted unanimously to re-open on Saturdays at the Director's and staff discretion. Melissa and staff will consider whether to go back to the original hours or a shorter day to start.

The Library staff is joining with the Rec Dept. staff to co-ordinate an Easter Egg event. Melissa asked for approval to increase the number of volunteers allowed in the building during that time. The Bengato (sp) family helps with the event every year. (mother and her 2 children). Melissa said that the family could use the quarantine room temporarily to assemble kits that will be handed out at the event. The tech fund purchased 2 new iPads and 1 computer to improve the current system. The town is making an effort to upgrade computer systems and Maddie will attend the Town Technology Committee meetings to address the issue of lack of phone availability during a power outage. The IT director from the schools will attend to seek to improve cell phone coverage within the schools. They will also consider how cell phone use will be impacted in a new building.

As mentioned, the sewing machine was purchased and Auger's business donated extra attachments. Library staff will be develop a policy along with guidelines for its use. A charge will be assessed for lost or broken parts. A plaque will be attached with Trudi Googins's name. Trudi's friend Anita will be invited to see it when the process is completed. Future projects might include assembling "take it, make it" kits for home use.

End 68 Hours of Hunger co-cordinator, Kim Gibson met with Melissa. The library's participation as a food collection site has started. Kim brought a decorated bin to kick off the effort. The plan is to have a bin inside and one outside that will be brought in at closing time.

The Eggstravaganza event will take place on March 20, 2021. Area businesses will display an egg at their business and many have contributed prizes. So far a total of 107 children have signed up to participate. The upper cap is 200.

Autumn, a library employee is interested in doing a school project on a diverse population of library users. She has earmarked a group with dementia and hearing difficulties. She will keep us up to date with the project.

Melissa has ordered a second set of keys for the library as a precaution in case a set is misplaced.

**Old Business:** Melissa is continuing to explore the Staff Monthly Recognition idea. Consideration is being given to installing a Random Act of Kindness Board at the library. Lydia Cupp researched the cost of displaying a floral arrangement 2 x a month. The Christmas Dove gave a quote of \$15 per floral arrangement. Library Trustee Alternate, Elinor has not

submitted her resume to Lindsey yet.

**New Business:** The Capital Improvement Plan is due April 29, 2021. Melissa questioned if a Committee should be formed and/or a Special Meeting will be required. The matter will be addressed at the April meeting.

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

**Next Meeting April 13, 2021 6:30 pm.**

Minutes recorded by Karen Towne, Trustee Co-Secretary. Submitted March 14, 2021

Minutes edited by Karen Towne on April 13, 2021