

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

Present: Trustees: Chair Susan Gaudiello, Susan Frankel, Robert Drew, Lydia Cupp, Karen Towne, and Melanie Haley. Library Director, Liz Bolton. Select Board Liaison Dannen Mannschreck.

Absent: Karolina Bodner, Trustee and Ezra Hodgson, Trustee Alternate

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair, Susan Gaudiello.

Minutes: Susan F. made a motion to accept the 1/22/24 Trustee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed.

Donations: Susan F. made a motion to accept the January donations of \$ 197.00, seconded by Lydia, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Susan F. gave the report for the January financials. The rolling CD accumulated \$366.94 in interest.

Susan F. and Melanie purchased a computer back-up system and a thumb drive for \$88.00. The purchase was approved at the January meeting.

Select Board Liaison: Dannen Mannschreck reported that the Select Board will meet next Monday night.

The Select Board has chosen Volunteer of the Year but he was not at liberty to announce the winner.

Director's Report: Liz reported that the Hoopla account has been raised to \$600 from \$450.

There were 13 new users in January and 1 new one in February.

Bonus checkouts at the end of the month are now offered by Hoopla.

The company has seen a recent decline in use by some libraries.

The Ancestry.com App has not been renewed as patrons use has decreased.

Applications for the Morning Desk Clerk position were interviewed. The first pick declined the position.

After discussion and review of the second applicant's resume, the board moved to hire Savannah Garrity at pay grade 3 Step 1 for \$14.43, with an increase to \$15.24 in April if the budget passes. Susan F. made the motion and seconded by Lydia.

Staff have been taking two-hour shifts at the front desk while library is without number of desk clerks.

Library Building Project: Susan G. reported that there was an excellent turnout on Feb. 17 of Barrington citizens at the Open House at the former site of the Frisbie Medical Building, the proposed site of the new Barrington Public Library.

Tours were provided by members of the Foundation and Trustees. Many questions were

answered about the proposed project. Refreshments were provided by the Friends of the Library.

It was suggested that cabinets, doors, and other objects not used for the renovations could be sold. Trustees are asked to educate the public regarding the Warrant Article #21.

Foundation update: Susan reported that the Foundation will continue to hand out info sheets about the proposed library at the Transfer Station and at Rec Dept. events.

The group is continuing to fundraise. Another mailer will be sent to all residents closer to the elections.

Signs have been posted around town to encourage the vote.

Old Business: Susan F., Melanie, Lydia and Ezra have filed for election to the Trustees and will be on the town ballot, unopposed.

Karen will fill out the form to be considered by the Select Board as a Library Trustee Alternate. We need to recruit more residents to apply as Alternates.

Friend's Report: Lydia reported that the Just Desserts event at the library raised \$450. The Bake Off resulted in tie winners. The Friends supplied baked goods and coffee for the Open House. Lydia will meet with Liz to plan Books in Bloom in the spring.

New Business: The turn over in the desk clerk positions and the difficulty in recruiting new applicants requires a revamping of staff and wages.

Susan G. proposed that the ILL position be raised to Grade 4/Step 1 \$16.21 an hour, pending budget approval.

A motion was made by Karen and seconded by Robert. motion passed.

A motion was made by Robert and seconded by Melanie for a pay grade increase for desk clerk to Grade 3 /Step 1 (14.43 per hour, then to \$15.24 per hour in April,once the budget has passed.

It was proposed that a Page position be added at a starting pay of \$Grade 1 for 8-10 hours weekly.

The position would consist of shelving materials, and assorted duties, but not staffing the circulation desk.

The motion to add the page position for 8-10 hours/wk. at Grade 1 was made by Susan F. and seconded by Lydia, motion passed.

A third proposal was made to change the title of Morning and Evening desk clerks to Library Assistants.

Many applicants didn't realize the amount of physical work the job required and this title is more in keeping with other libraries. A motion was made to change the title of Desk Clerk to Library Assistant by Susan F. and seconded by Lydia, passed.

A motion was made by Susan F. and Melanie to adjourn the meeting, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.

Next meeting is March 20,2024

Minutes recorded by Karen Towne, Co-Secretary, submitted February 23, 2024