

Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Meeting Minutes APPROVED
August 29, 2023

Present: Trustees: Chair Susan Gaudiello, Susan Frankel, Karolina Bodner, Robert Drew, Lydia Cupp, Karen Towne. Trustee Alternate Melanie Haley. Library Director, Liz Bolton. Select Board Representative, Dan Mannschrek. Community member, Ezra Hodgson.
Absent: Trustee Leigh Elliott.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair, Susan Gaudiello. Susan announced that Melanie will vote for absent Trustee Leigh. Susan introduced Ezra Hodgson who is interested in the Trustee Alternate position.

Minutes: Robert made a motion to accept the 7/18/23 Trustee Meeting Minutes, seconded by Karen, and the motion passed.

Donations: Susan F. made a motion to accept the July donations of \$208, seconded by Lydia, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Susan F. reported on the July expenditures and interest accrued for the Trustee and Library accounts. Lydia made a motion to accept the July Treasurer's report, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed.

Select Board Liaison: Dan Mannschreck reported that the Select Board will begin Budget considerations at the beginning of October. Susan G. and Liz will present the Library budget to the ABC on Oct. 31 and to the Select Board on Nov. 6th.

Library Building Project: Susan G. reported on the current library building plans. On Aug. 23, the SMP architect Jason presented designs for a proposed library on Ramsdell Lane (Plan A). Plan B was renovation of the Frisbee Healthcare center which recently came up for sale. The building is about 20 years old, has a large generator, and good infrastructure. Although the public comments were favorable toward Plan A, there was overwhelming support for the Plan B purchase and renovation. The next Library Building Committee will meet with Jason on Sept. 6.

Susan F. made a motion to recommend that the Select Board proceed with the acquisition of the Frisbee Healthcare Building on Rt. 125 to be renovated for use as a new Public Library. Robert seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Liz presented the draft of the proposed flier to be mailed to households in Barrington with the intent of reaching residents who do not use social media. The flier will list hours, services and upcoming events. It was suggested that several hundred extra fliers be printed to be placed around town.

Susan Milioto has resigned effective immediately. Liz recommended the hiring of Kate McCarthy who was trained by Susan on the ILL service. Kate will perform double duties as desk clerk until a new staff member is hired

Lydia made a motion to move Kate McCarthy to the ILL position effective Sept. 4th, seconded by Susan F., and the motion passed

The Facilities Manager and DPW did extensive work taking out trees and rocks, laying gravel, and moving the shed. The tent will now be in front of the shed, the second handicapped parking space restored, and will allow for better snow removal.

New Business: Liz presented the proposed budget which is due to the Town Manager by Aug. 31. After going through each line, Susan F. made a motion to accept the proposed library budget, seconded by Karen, and it was passed.

Lydia is planning to run for reelection as Trustee in the March Municipal election and Karen will step down to become an Alternate Trustee. Susan F. is not planning to run again for trustee.

Old Business: Susan G. presented a written report from Trustee Planning Workshop held on Aug. 15 outlining the plans for the coming 18-24 months. Staff will draft action plans to present to the board in October.

After Trustee review, Susan F. made a motion to accept the Public Comment Policy, seconded by Melanie, and the motion passed. The Trustees will be trained in the use of Microsoft TEAMS. This will allow meetings to be videotaped and residents to join meetings online.

Friends Report: Lydia reported that the annual Mums Sale order forms are online and at the library and are due by Aug. 31. The Friends voted to purchase 2 plants each to be donated to the Library and the Town Hall. The plants will be delivered Fri., Sept. 8th at 2:00 and volunteers will help to unload and sort them.

The purchased mums should be picked up at the library Sat., Sept 9th from 9 to 1.

Foundation Report: Susan G. reported that the Foundation and the Building Committee unanimously voted to support the purchase and renovation of the former Frisbee Healthcare Center for a new library.

Susan F. made a motion to adjourn at 7:12, seconded by Karen, and the motion passed.

Next BPL Trustee Meeting September 19, 2023 5:30pm

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