

November 17, 2021 - Library Trustees minutes

Attendance: Kathy Fox Alfano, Sue Barlow, Christine Crane, Irja Finn (Interim Director), Susan Schmidt, Perry Davis attended via phone call due to recent surgery. Kristina Prodouz was absent. Marilyn Tarallo joined later.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm.

There was a vote to accept minutes from the September and October meetings. Moved by Christine Crane and seconded by Susan Schmidt. Unanimously accepted.

Information for discussion

CPC grant passed during the Town Meeting on Monday. Irja is meeting with the Interim Town Administrator about the next steps. Some repairs may need to come sooner from the last storm. Irja is collecting quotes for the work, needing only three since the amount is lower than \$10,000. The Environmental Assessment must precede the Facilities Assessment. No update is currently available on the Trustees Calendar.

The Library Assessment survey is up to 148 responses. The librarian at BHS is hoping to survey students. We have reached out to the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce; we can make another Facebook post. Sue will talk to the Council on Aging and the Garden Club to share. Susan will send a condensed version again to Irja to have some printed copies available for non-computer patrons here and elsewhere in town.

The holiday get-together for the staff will be at Mezzaluna on December 10. The Board of Trustees will share some cheer after our December meeting.

Interim Director's Report

October was very busy with two temporary employees starting, the storm that knocked out power to the town and scheduling difficulties brought on by a retirement as well as illness, quarantine and other unforeseen circumstances. Irja is trying to figure out the scheduling to maintain at least the minimum of being open for 50 hours a week and at least two evenings beyond 5:00 pm. The pandemic has brought challenges in so many aspects that affect staffing and workload. The delivery of books is coming at unexpected times which can burden other shifts because there is a lack of drivers from that company. In the budget report, JBPL is not keeping up with demand for e-books and audios, needing \$27,000 more to improve from 90+ days to wait on many titles down to about 40-45 days on some popular titles. We are sixth of 32 for digital circulation in CLAMS network and seventh for print circulation.

Interim TA Tim King, funded the library below the MAR (Municipal Appropriation Requirement). The largest gap between FY22 and FY23 was the salary line, the prior director was at the top of the scale, and the anticipated range for a new Director is the middle of the scale.

Next meeting agenda: discuss our approach to our director search in light of the ongoing search for a new Town Administrator.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 16 at 4:00 pm.

Marilyn Tarallo joined briefly with an update from the Friends of the Library group. They are planning to appoint five “at-large” members on November 22. Christmas in Olde Bourne Village will be December 3 with a nutcracker performance at 5:45 pm and tree lighting at 6:00 pm. A choral group will sing from Bourne High. There will be nutcracker cupcakes for the celebration!

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Schmidt
Fill in recorder