

Library Association of Ringwood, Inc.
Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Drive, Ringwood, NJ
December 5, 2022, 7:00PM
Meeting Location: Ryerson Middle School, 130 Valley Rd, Ringwood, NJ
Minutes

Attendance: 68 Association Members, 2 Interim Co-Directors, 1 member of the public

Board of Trustees: Amy Boyle Geisel, Lauren Maguire, Jessica Einreinhof, Kathryn Grant, Jennifer Hsu, Hina Mehta, Cathie Studwell, Linda Schaeffer.

Library Directors: Wendy Sandford, MaryEllen D'Elia

Call to Order

At 7:00PM, President Amy Boyle Geisel called the meeting to order and read the following statement: Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the usual course to the Suburban Trends, Record, Herald News, Borough Manager, Borough Clerk, and the RPL website. Notice was posted inside RPL and Ringwood Town Hall.

Amy Boyle Geisel welcomed the members of the Library Association of Ringwood. She clarified that tonight there would be a vote on two seats on the Board of Trustees that were up for election. She also let the membership know that while many people perceived a threat to the library and joined in response to that perception, no threat exists currently. Further comments were made about the structure of an association library vs. a municipal library and various ways that members of the association could choose to get involved and further support the library.

Approval of Minutes from 12/14/2021 Meeting

Karen Marcus made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021 Annual Membership meeting. It was seconded by Lisa Petri and passed with no objection.

Open Comments from the Membership

A motion was made by Hina Mehta to open the meeting to comments from the membership. It was seconded by Linda Schaefer and passed with no objections.

- Robin Canetti, 310 Lakeview Ave, spoke about libraries across the country being under attack. She made the point that with the open access to knowledge comes discomfort for some people and that the library as an institution that brings open access to information should be defended.
- Paula Tedesco, 95 Upper Lakeview Ave, requested a clarification in the order of the meeting agenda.
- Tom MacAllen, 32 Judith Ann Dr, asked if the Sunday concerts would return to the library.

There being no further comments from the public, a motion was made by Paula Tedesco to close the members comment session. It was seconded by Robin Canetti and passed without objection.

Interim Co-Directors' comments to the Membership

MaryEllen D'Elia addressed the membership. She answered Mr. MacAllen's question about the Sunday concerts by saying that the library will look to hold concerts in the future. Ms. D'Elia spoke about the ways that the library staff experience gratitude from the public and thanked the many people and organizations that have allowed Ringwood Public Library and its staff to be successful in the past year. She then introduced Wendy Sandford. Wendy Sandford reported on the use of RPL's facility and resources for the prior year including statistics for programs participation, materials borrowing, and use by outside organizations of the space and resources. She summed up her remarks by asking for the association members to be involved in the Friends of the Library and by restating her commitment to the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights.

Election of Trustees for three year terms (2 of 9 positions)

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Amy Boyle Geisel asked for nominations from the floor for the Trustee positions that were up for election. There were no nominations from the floor. With that, she announced the slate that was recommended by the Board:

Cathie Studwell (Trustee)
Hina Mehta (Trustee)

The candidates each made their remarks to those present and spoke about their backgrounds, relationships to the library, the roles they had occupied as volunteers, and the unique contributions they hope to make to the Board of Trustees.

There was a vote by paper ballot.

Presentation to the membership by the Friends of the Ringwood Library

Eileen Manley presented a history of the library's founding along with the creation of the Friends of the Library and the Ringwood Library Foundation.

Announcement of Election Results

The votes were counted and Kathleen Weir reported to Amy Boyle Geisel that both Cathie Studwell and Hina Mehta were elected to the Board of Trustees. Both candidates received 68 votes and there were no other votes cast or votes that could not be identified. Amy Boyle Geisel congratulated both Trustees.

Public Session

A motion was made by Cathie Studwell to open the meeting to Public Session. It was seconded by Hina Mehta and passed without objection. There being no members of the public who wished to comment, Jennifer Hsu made a motion to close the meeting to public session. It was seconded by Cathie Studwell and passed without objection.

Adjournment – Next Annual Membership Meeting will be Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00PM.

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees will be held on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Ringwood Public Library.

A motion to adjourn was made by Robin Canetti. It was seconded by Karen Marcus and passed without objection. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52PM

Respectfully submitted,

MaryEllen D'Elia
12/14/2022
Library Association Annual Meeting