

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2020

Called to Order 7:04pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chairman

Betty Henderson, Vice Chairman

Laura Nuttall, Recording Secretary

Gail Bergin (on Zoom)

Mary Gillis

Barbara McLaughlin

Carrie Murray

Jake O'Neill

Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Absent: Gerry Haas

Minutes of the meeting held on August 31, 2020 were reviewed by the Board.

MOTION to approve the August 31, 2020 minutes was made by Barbara, seconded by Betty and accepted unanimously.

Chairman's Report

-Henry thanked the Board for the condolence card.

-There are no Library issues on the Warrant for the upcoming Town Meeting.

-Thank you to Deb and the staff for getting the APL open and for being in the forefront of library re-openings.

-The new Weymouth Public Library is now open.

Library Director's Report

- Financial and Selected Statistical Reports-The budget report is still not corrected in the computer. All the expended money is correct in the report. No concerns on

any of the line items in the budget so far. Curbside pickup has steadily increased and everyone is pleased. Digital circulation remains steady.

-Programming Update-The Health Agent has approved opening event space so starting Wednesday, Amy is going to host a very small Pre-school Story Hour with two parents and four or five children. If it goes well then Amy would like to do more of them. The families will only be in the building for about 20 minutes. Zoom book clubs, story times, cooking and craft clubs are going well.

-OCLN Update-The Weymouth Public Library is now open. The new building is lovely according to Deb. Whitman, Rockland, Hanover and Norwell are still closed and are not opening any time soon. Avon Library is open by appointment only and Holbrook is open for lobby browsing only. An OCLN Report was published and Abington's Statistical Transactions were only down 23% from last year. The whole network was down 55%.

-Friends Update-The Friends met on Zoom to talk about the details of the Socially Distant Book Sale which will be October 17 from 11-2. There will be three tables outside the Children's Room under the portico. The Friends are also looking to do an online jewelry sale for a fundraiser.

Building Issues

-New Fire Alarm System-The new fire alarm system at the Town Hall is up and running and the Library's system will be done this week. The lift is coming on Thursday so the work to put up the smoke detectors in the ceiling can be done on Friday and Saturday. Deb is very happy with the new company, but she is aware that there will be a few growing pains as the project progresses.

-Paving-Parking Lot and Gliniewicz Way-All of the paving has been completed. There are a few small divots in the side lot but everything else looks good.

-Town Energy Efficiency Project-Controller System and Fans-The heating and air conditioning systems appear to be working.

-HVAC Compressor Electrical Issues-The compressor issues have been fixed.

-Other-Andy is coming in to talk to Deb about some other electrical issues that are going on in the building.

-Other-Deb is going to get in touch with Mr. Gouthro about the new water bottle filling station.

Current Library Issues

-COVID-19 Service Update-The APL will be opening on Saturdays starting October 17. Not sure how busy it will be, so Deb is going to adjust the hours on Saturdays to make it cost effective. Out of town patrons tend to come later in the day so she is hoping that it is not so busy that the staff cannot handle being open and doing curbside pickup.

-LSTA Grant Update-The grant report is finished. It is due October 15, 2020. Deb will send a copy of the report to the Board. Policies can be set now, but not much can be done until COVID restrictions are lifted.

Old Business

-FY21 Budget-No surprises with the Budget. Nothing should change after the Town Meeting.

-Community Preservation Act Story Garden Restore and Refresh-Benches are out being redone. The Garden is closed, and the seeding will be done soon.

-Fall Town Meeting-The Fall Town Meeting will be October 19, 2020. Henry has not heard about any of the logistics for the Town Meeting, but we will not meet as a Board before the meeting as we have no Articles for the Town Meeting.

-Other-The Trustees from the town of Kingston have requested a letter so Deb has sent one.

-Other-The chairs for the Children's Room have all come back and they look lovely.

New Business

-Study Room COVID-19 Policy Review-The Study Rooms are closed and will remain closed until at least February.

-Internet/Computer Use COVID-19 Policy Review-Chairs have been put out around the building and some patrons are just sitting on the floor with their own devices using the internet. Computer time is still limited to 30 minutes on the public computers. There will be no time extensions. **MOTION to approve the amendments to the Study Room Policy and the Internet/Computer Use Policy was made by Jake, seconded by Mary and accepted unanimously.**

-Museum Pass Status-The Mass State's Parks Parking Pass and the Boston Children's Museum passes are still operational. All the other passes have not been renewed but will be as the museums re-open.

-Letter to the Board of Health-The Board of Library Trustees is very grateful for the assistance of Marty and the other members of the Board of Health for all they have done for the Library during this crisis. A letter of appreciation has been sent to Chris Schultz, Marty Golightly, Tim Chapin and Scott Lamabise.

-Other-Sarah will be on maternity leave once the baby is born.

Next Meeting:

November 16, 2020 at 7:00pm

January 11, 2021 at 7:00pm

Motion to adjourn at 8:09pm was made by Carrie, seconded by Jake and accepted unanimously.