

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023 Called to Order 7:09pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chair

Carrie Murray, Recording Secretary

Betty Henderson, Vice Chair

Laura Brink

Mary Gillis

Gerry Haas

Gail Bergin

Jake O'Neill

Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Absent: Barbara McLaughlin

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Minutes of the meeting held on November 21, 2022 were reviewed by the Board. **MOTION to approve the November 21, 2022 minutes was made by Mary, seconded by Gerry, and accepted unanimously, Carrie abstained.**

Chairman's Report

- Town Clerk says papers will be available for those seeking reelection. Betty will not run again. Jake and Barbara will take papers out for reelection.
- Amy, the Children's Librarian had a baby named Annie Ellen. Congratulations!

Library Director's Report

- Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports: Financial Report is up to date. We are in good shape. We are halfway through the year and all is going well. October, November, and December stats – excellent. There has been more circulation and people coming into the library than in the previous year. We are up more than 6% in circulation. Museum Passes are being used.

- Staff Update: We have a new baby! Yay Amy! We have a new reference librarian - Robert Goodale, working 17 ½ hours a week. We have a good librarian sub list to help out on Saturdays.
- Friends Update: The Friends did well on the gift cards fundraiser.
- OCLN Update: Deb is on a committee working with the Overdrive collection.

Building Issues

- Roof Project: The roof project is almost done. It did not leak in the recent rainstorm.
 - Ceiling Tile Replacement – almost complete. Working on the punch list now.
- Electrical: Still waiting to get new lights for the circulation desk.
- Plumbing: Greg Gouthro is looking to get us a quote for a water filling station.

Current Library Issues

- Program Update:
 - Children programs: We are visiting school classrooms
 - Playgroups are taking off. We are happily busy.
 - Adult programs: Matt York – Songs of the Highway Men may come in. It would be sponsored by the Cultural Arts Council. First Saturday in March
 - Craft night will return in March
 - Non-Fiction book club will read “The Library Book” in March.
 - Pop-Fiction will read “The Giver of Stars” in March.
- 25th Anniversary Planning:
 - Sunday 2/5/22 at 2pm Steve Rudolph Trio doing swing music as part of the 25th anniversary year. 1:30 - 3:30pm Balloon twisting and fun in the Children’s Room with Ed Popielarczyk
 - Have monthly events to celebrate:
 - March – Abington Reads – “The Library Book”
 - Craft Night

- Word Game Night
- National Bring Your Child to Library Day – Feb. 4
- May – Celebration of the Garden
- June – Summer Reading
- Highlight certain rooms in the library
- FY24 Budget - Henry and Deb go to the Finance Meeting on Wednesday night

Old Business

- LSTA Grant Options: We are thinking of applying for the grant. Looking to get keynote author to come to the library.

New Business

- COVID Policies Repeal – We can now repeal the policy. **MOTION to repeal existing Covid Policy was made by Jake, seconded by Gerry, and accepted unanimously.**
- Unattended Children Policy Update – Reviewed the update.
- Article for Special Town Meeting – We may be requesting funding for the union raise. **MOTION to authorize the Director, if necessary, to insert an article in the Special Town Meeting on behalf of the Trustees. Made by Gail and seconded by Laura.**
- Articles for Annual Town Meeting - **MOTION to authorize the Director, if necessary, to insert an article in the Annual Town Meeting on behalf of the Trustees. Made by Carrie and seconded by Mary.**
- Other:
 - The Capital Plan – has come back and Deb is reviewing it.
 - Deb will report back regarding the Annual Report.

Next Meetings: February 13, 2023 and March 13, 2023 (Town Meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2023)

Motion to adjourn at 8:20pm was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.