

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2022

Called to Order 6:59pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chair

Betty Henderson, Vice Chair

Laura Nuttall, Recording Secretary

Gail Bergin

Mary Gillis

Gerry Haas

Barbara McLaughlin

Carrie Murray

Jake O'Neill

Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Guests: Laura Brink

Ruth Kowal

Virtual Guest

-Ruth Kowal, Strategic Planning Consultant, gave a presentation to the Board. Ruth has worked with several Libraries in the area to develop long term Strategic Plans. She explained the process, surveys, focus groups, action plans, mission statements and much more. She will be working closely with Deb and the Strategic Planning Committee over the next few weeks.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

-Minutes of the meeting held on January 10, 2022 were reviewed by the Board.

MOTION to approve the January 10, 2022 minutes was made by Jake, seconded by Betty and accepted unanimously.

Chairman's Report

-The election is at the end of April. All the nomination papers for the Board of Library Trustees have been submitted to Town Hall.

-The Fire Station Building Committee is back to square one. They are now looking to build a combined Highway Department building and Fire Station where the current Highway Barn is now.

-Thank you to Laura Brink for being at tonight's meeting and stepping up to run for the open seat on the Board of Library Trustees.

Library Director's Report

-Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports-Finances look good, and everything is where it should be. January circulation has not been done, but the statistics for all of 2021 are finished.

-Friends Update-The Friends are planning the next book/bake sale in April. The Arts Council will fund the Museum of Fine Arts Pass and the Delvena Theater production of Isabella on April 7, 2022.

-OCLN Update-The hybrid Members Council Meeting went well last week. Due to the large number of new Directors, there is going to be a resurrection of Directors Round Tables starting at the end of March. There is also going to be a lot of staff training to familiarize everyone with OCLN, governance, people who work at Central Cite, Members Council participants, etc.

-Program Update-Drop-in Story hour had to be split into two sessions due to the large number of patrons who wanted to attend (42) last week. The two smaller groups worked out well for everyone. Gary Hylander will be giving a talk on the Boston Massacre on March 31, 2022.

Building Issues

-Roof Planning-The plans for the roof are out to bid now. Thursday is when the bids will be opened. The costs for the roof are in the Capital Plan Article for this Town Meeting.

-Electrical Switches at Circ Desk-The replacement switches are still not in yet. Andy will replace them when they come in.

-Plumbing-Deb is still working on getting a water bottle filling station.

-Other-A comprehensive Capital Plan through the Collins Center is being conducted. Deb has asked to have a building study of things like the boiler to get an idea as to how long systems should last. The trees in front of the Library and the paving of the rest of the parking lot are also being looked at.

-Current Library Issues

-Library Programs-Everything is going well with the programs.

-FY23 Budget-The position for the part time Children's Librarian has been put back into the budget. Town Meeting is April 4, and the budget will be voted on then.

-Capital Plan-Nothing to report on the Capital Plan.

-Other-The Charter Review Committee is looking at clarification of language as to who appoints the Director and Staff at the Library. Also, they are looking into the sixty-day requirement for the minutes of meetings to be voted on.

Old Business

-Logo and Website Status-There are three logos that have been presented to the Library to be reviewed. The Board liked one of the logos better than the others. More work is being done with the logo and the project should be finished by the end of April or beginning of May. The website project will begin after the logo is finished. The websites menus will be updated. The mobile website will be revamped because it is not user friendly.

-Strategic Plan for FY24-FY29 Planning-Deb will be working the Ruth and the Strategic Planning Committee over the next few weeks to formulate a new Strategic Plan.

-Annual Town Report-**MOTION to approve the Annual Town Report was made by Barbara, seconded by Gail accepted unanimously.**

-Meeting Room Update-Things have been going well with the Meeting Room. The Quilters group cancelled their meetings in January and February. The South Shore Writers and the Scouts have been meeting with small groups of people. People

have been masking as needed without problems. On March 19, there will be an African Dance Program in the Copeland Room with a capacity of 30-40 people.

New Business

-Collection Development Policies Revision-**MOTION to approve the General Collection Development Policy was made by Jake, seconded by Mary and accepted unanimously.**

-Other-The Art Shows for Beaver Brook and Woosdale are going on as scheduled and there will be receptions for both shows. The schools will notify the parents and students when they are scheduled.

-Other-As of right now, the Summer Reading Kick-off will be June 29th.

Next Meeting:

April 4,2022 before the Town Meeting at 6:30 at Abington High School

May 9,2022 at 7:00pm

Motion to adjourn at 8:53 pm was made by Gail, seconded by Carrie and accepted unanimously.