

**Abington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees**

Meeting Minutes                      March 10, 2025                      Called to Order 7:01 pm

**Attendees:**

Henry DiCarlo, Chair  
Gail Bergin, Vice Chair  
Mary Gillis  
Barbara McLaughlin  
Laura Brink  
Jake O'Neill  
Sue Crowley  
Deborah Grimmatt, Library Director  
One Vacant Position

**Absent:**

Gerry Haas

**Visitors: Non-voting attendees**

John Leahy – Candidate for open position

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- Minutes of the meeting held on February 10, 2025, were reviewed by the Board. **MOTION to approve the February 10, 2025, minutes was made by Mary, seconded by Barbara, and accepted unanimously.**

**Chairman's Report**

- OCLN Legislative Breakfast: Attended by Deb and Henry. There was a good turnout of legislators.

**Library Director's Report**

- Monthly Financial Report: Library is in good shape for both salaries and services/supplies. Children's librarian will be going out on family leave which will result in a savings on the salary line item.

- Statistical Report: Not printed in time for the meeting.
- Friends Update: Meeting held week of February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Getting ready for book sale which will be on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 10 am until 1 pm. The Friends' received a \$450 donation in memory of a member's sibling which will be used for a children's program.
- OCLN Update: Integrated Library System task force still working on selecting vendors. Members council February meeting held in Abington.
- Programming Update: Ted Reinstein program was attended by 47 patrons and went well. Matt York program was not well attended. So many people have shown interest in the Pop Fic book club that they were forced to go onto a wait list.
- Mike Conley, long-time library user recently passed away and donations to the library have been made in his memory. Mike's wife Mary Ellen was a Library Trustee.
- Library had a first amendment "audit" in early February. Abington staff handled it well and no issues were raised.

### **Building Issues**

- Roof: Nothing to report.
- Electrical Issues: Part for emergency lights has arrived and should be fixed in upcoming weeks.
- Plumbing: Faucets have been acting up and have been replaced. The water heater pilot light has been going out and the plumbers are troubleshooting the issue.
- A/C Study: The cost for the study has been included in the Capital Plan in the Warrant for the upcoming Town Meeting.

### **Current Library Issues**

- Website Update: Work will begin as soon as the money is released from Town Hall.
- Abington Reads 2025: Next Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, professor Dr Rita Jones-Hyde from Massasoit coming to discuss concerns related to Native

Americans. Amanda Peters will be discussing her book The Berry Pickers on Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.

- Town Wage and Classification Study: No update.

### **Old Business**

- Budget FY26: As of February 26<sup>th</sup>, Department Head meeting, the library has not received any feedback on the submitted budget.
- Emergency Policy Update: Trustees reviewed the revised Emergency Response Plan. **MOTION to approve the revised Emergency Response Plan was made by Laura, seconded by Gail and accepted unanimously.**

### **New Business**

- Staff Update: Retired Library Assistant Isa Murray, passed away after a long battle with cancer. Isa joined the staff in 1996 and retired in 2011, although she continued as a substitute Circulation Assistant until 2016. Town holding a celebration for people who have retired from Abington.
- Library Programming Policy: Trustees reviewed the updated policy. **MOTION to approve the updated Library Programming Policy was made by Barbara, seconded by Sue and accepted unanimously.**

**Next Meetings:    April 7, 2025, at 6:30 pm. (Town Meeting – High School)**  
**May 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Town Election:    April 26, 2025**

**MOTION to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:16 pm by Laura, seconded by Jake and accepted unanimously.**