

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2024

Called to Order 7:01pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chair

Gail Bergin, Vice Chair

Laura Brink

Sue Crowley

Mary Gillis

Gerry Haas

Barbara McLaughlin

Jake O'Neill

Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Absent: Carrie Murray, Secretary

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Minutes of the meeting held on February 12, 2024 were reviewed by the Board. **MOTION to approve the February 12, 2024 minutes was made by Gerry seconded by Mary, and accepted unanimously with Barbara and Jake abstaining.**

Chairman's Report

- Town meeting is coming up. We are fine financially for this year but next year might be shaky.
- There is concern about the wording on appointing the director of the library. Henry will reach out to the Charter Committee about the wording.

Library Director's Report

- Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports: The financials look good. Building repair and maintenance will be going down soon. January 2024 circulation was up 1300 over January of 2023. February was a good month. The children's room has been very busy with programs and class visits.
- Friends Update: The book and bake sale is April 27th from 10am-1pm. Book donations will be accepted starting 3/15. The sale is returning to the Copland Room.

- OCLN Update: Deb was appointed to the nominating committee for the 2024/5 executive board. The committee met at the library on Friday March 8th.
- Programming Update: Craft night is coming back! Matt Yorke will be coming to do Songs and Stories from Johnny Cash on March 23, 2024 at 3pm.
- Other: The blocks in the Children's Room have been replaced. The old ones were beginning to splinter after 15 years.

Building Issues

- Boiler and Boiler Integration System (BAS) Update: Both boilers are working and tied into the BAS. The pumps will be tied into the BAS on March 12th. The baseboard heat in the Copland Room should be fixed within the week.
- Hot Water Heater Issues: A new stack pipe had to be put up due to Building Code changes. The pilot light is now going out periodically. We are awaiting a solution.
- Building alarm: The building alarm has not been working. We have a quote of \$3,857.26 to replace the main panel and the key pad panels. It will put the signal on a cellular line. There will be an increase in the monthly monitoring fee but will come with cellular and internet communication and an app. **A motion was made to approve this expense by Sue and seconded by Jake and approved unanimously.**
- Roof: Our engineer has filed a claim about the roof tiles.
- Fax Line: The fax line has been fixed.
- Other: The threshold to the boiler room door broke. A temporary fix has been made so the door can be shut. It will be fixed permanently later this week.

Current Library Issues

- Civic Hub LSTA Grant: The grant is going along great. The Harriet Beecher Stowe Program was fantastic. Stephen Puleo will be here on 3/14. We have a new display case for grant related items. It is on wheels so it is very versatile.

- FY2025 Budget: There may be budget cuts but so far the library has not been asked to cut anything.
- Town Wage and Classification Study: No new updates.

Old Business

- Photography and Videography Policy: **A motion was made to accept the revised Photography and Videography policy with edits by Jake and seconded by Laura. It was approved unanimously. It will be available in the library.**

New Business

- March Madness-Monthly Reader Engagement: Please judge books by their cover! Vote for your favorite book in March Madness!
- Grant Funded Databases: The grant is paying for 2 databases: LOTE for kids which has books in different languages including Brazilian Portuguese and a social issues database geared towards teens and adults.
- Summer Hours: We will close on Saturdays from June 15th thru August 31st. We will be closing at 5:00 on July 3rd. **A motion was made by Gerry to adopt summer hours and seconded by Barbara. It was approved unanimously.**
- Summer Reading Program: Kickoff will be June 20th. The theme is Read, Renew, Repeat. Many fun programs are planned.
- OCLN Library Crawl: It will be held in October this year and will be longer.
- New Town Website: The new town website is up and active. There is also an app for the town.

Next Meeting: April 1st at 5:30 prior to Annual Town Meeting and May 13th.

Motion to adjourn at 8:24 pm was made by Gerry, seconded by Mary and accepted unanimously.