

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2019

Called to Order: 7:00pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chairman

Betty Henderson, Vice Chairman

Laura Nuttall, Recording Secretary

Gail Bergin

Gerry Haas

Barbara McLaughlin

Carrie Murray

Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Absent: Jake O'Neill

Mary Gillis

Minutes of the meeting held on March 18, 2019 were reviewed by the Board.

MOTION to approve the March 18, 2019 minutes was made by Barbara, seconded by Gail and accepted unanimously with one abstention.

Chairman's Report

-Henry received a letter from the Board of Library Commissioners stating that the second and final State Aid payment of \$11,080.43 would be electronically transferred in a few weeks. Abington received a total of \$21,801.47 in State Aid in FY19.

-Abington Reads 2019 was a great success. Steve Pemberton was well received and well attended.

-Town elections are April 27. Good luck to all who are running for office.

Library Director's Report

-Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports-The Book Budget has about \$15,000 in it which is right where it should be. The Building Repair and Maintenance Budget will be spent soon. Circulation for March was very good. The increase in circulation may be due to the temporary closing of the Weymouth Library. The Art Shows were very well attended as well. Website numbers are missing but Deb will have them next month.

-Programming Update-Peter Christoph will present “Birds of the New England Swamp” on Wednesday. Adult programs are winding down. Children’s programs will be wrapping up in May. Sarah will be hosting “Appy Hour” in May, a program about the various apps available on devices.

-Friends of the Library-Book sale donations are starting to come in. The Weymouth Friends have volunteered to help with the APL Book Sale on April 26-27. The print dedication for Rosie Walls will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 7:00.

-OCLN Update-Automatic Renewals-There has been another glitch which has delayed the automatic renewals implementation.

Building Issues

-Town Energy Efficiency Project-The company doing the Efficiency Project came in just after last month’s meeting and installed controllers on the walls and VAV boxes. At some point they will come back and have to shut off the power to the HVAC system to wire everything. Deb does not know when yet. The company was very professional and easy to work with. Once everything is wired Deb and the Staff will be trained.

- Roof Issues on March 8-The roof has been repaired. It cost about \$1080.00 to repair the shingle tabs and rubber sealant.

-Snow Melt Sensor-Andy is still working on fixing it. Hopefully we will not need to use it again this season.

-Door Handle-The door handle to the Ladies' Room has been an issue for a while. It keeps sticking making it difficult to get out of the bathroom. Bob Soper replaced it at a cost of \$650.00.

-Director's Office Painting-Carrie Bates is going to paint Deb's office when she is on vacation this summer.

-Other-There has been an issue lately with a lack of seating available to the public. If and when the carpet gets replaced, Deb would like to remove some of the stacks in the center of the Library and make additional space for tables and chairs.

Current Library Issues

-Yearbook Digitization Project-Sarah is working on the project.

-Abington Reads 2019 Wrap Up-Steve Pemberton was well received and about 40 people attended his program. On Tuesday, Dr. Aviva Rich-Shea will discuss the foster care system in MA. This program was rescheduled from last month. Deb is already looking for fiction authors for next year.

-LSTA Grant Application Update-The Grant Application was mailed today and emails copies were sent as well. If the Grant is approved it would allow the APL to bring in a consultant to organize which old documents can and should be digitized. The money will be awarded in July.

-Website Update-The website has been moved to a secure host. It is about \$75 more per year but well worth it. The move to the new host happened on March 28 and Deb was not able to get statistics from March 29-31. She will have all the numbers next month.

-Other-On Friday, March 22, a whole bunch of Comcast trucks were in the parking lot. They were doing some training in a man hole but there were no police or fire details in the area at the time which is very unusual. Deb was never told that

there was going to be training and nobody knows who gave them permission to train there. They did take the Library off line around 12:30 but it was back up again soon after.

Old Business

-FY20 Budget-Deb and Henry attended the Budget Meeting with the Finance Committee on Wednesday, March 20. It went well.

-Community Preservation Act Funding Application for Sheila's Garden-The CPA chair was at the Finance Committee hearing the same night and Henry was informed that the money that the Library has requested will be on the agenda for Town Meeting.

-Exterior Camera Policy- **MOTION to approve the Exterior Video Surveillance Policy was made by Betty, seconded by Barbara and accepted unanimously.** The new policy will be posted in the Policy Book in the Library.

-Summer Hours-The staff is in favor of closing the Library on July 5, 2019 by taking vacation time. **MOTION to accommodate the Staff by closing the Library on July 5, 2019 was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.**

-Other-Deb went and saw new State Representative Allyson Sullivan at her office hours at the Senior Center. It was a very positive meeting and she was very accommodating. She is very overwhelmed with the volume of emails and correspondence. Other members of the Board of Library Trustees will be attending her office hours in the next few months.

New Business

-High School Class Visits-The 9th and 10th grade classes will be visiting the Library after the April school vacation. The classes will be in the building for about 30 minutes.

-Summer Reading Program-June 18, 2019 will be the kickoff for Summer Reading this year. The space theme is “Universe of Stories” and the goal is to adopt a Giant Panda and a Black Rhino.

-Policy on Not Lending to Residents of Municipalities with Decertified Libraries-
Due to fiscal issues in other communities, Deb asked the Board to reaffirm the Policy on Not Lending to Residents of Municipalities with Decertified Libraries. If necessary, Deb will send a letter to the Trustees of any library in the region which faces decertification, reaffirming the APL policy if it is needed. **MOTION to reaffirm the Policy on Not Lending to Residents of Municipalities with Decertified Libraries Policy and to authorize Deb to notify the Director of any Decertified Library of the APL Policy in writing was made by Gail, seconded by Barbara and accepted unanimously.** If a library is decertified, residents of that community can come to the APL and use any materials available in the building, they will just not be able to check them out and take them home. Hopefully this situation will be avoided.

Next Meeting:

May 20, 2019 6:30pm before Town Meeting

June 17, 2019 7:00pm

July 22, 2019 7:00pm

September 9, 2019 7:00pm

Motion to adjourn at 8:44pm was made by Gerry, seconded by Carrie and accepted unanimously.