

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2021

Called to Order 7:02pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chair

Betty Henderson, Vice Chair

Laura Nuttall, Recording Secretary

Gail Bergin

Gerry Haas

Barbara McLaughlin

Carrie Murray

Jake O'Neill

Deborah Grimmert, Library Director

Absent: Mary Gillis

Library Director Deb Grimmert conducted the reorganization of the Board.

MOTION to nominate Henry DiCarlo as Chair of the Board of Library Trustees was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.

MOTION to nominate Betty Henderson as Vice Chair of the Board of Library Trustees was made by Barbara, seconded by Gail and accepted unanimously.

MOTION to nominate Laura Nuttall as Recording Secretary of the Board of Library Trustees was made by Jake, seconded by Betty and accepted unanimously.

Minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2021 were reviewed by the Board.

MOTION to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes was made by Betty, seconded by Jake and accepted unanimously.

Chairman's Report

-Congratulations to everyone who won in the election.

-Laura announced that she will not be running again for her seat on the Board at the next election.

-Town Meeting went well and the Library was budgeted money for engineering for a new roof. Having a professional look at the roof will be good to find out if more insulation is necessary or if solar panels are an option.

-The Bailey's will be having the Daylily Sale this year. The Story Garden will be a beneficiary of this money.

Library Director's Report

- Financial and Statistical Reports-The Book Budget will go over the allotted amount. There will be money turned back to the Town this year. Closing in on the end of the fiscal year and everything is where it should be. Circulation Statistics will be available next meeting.

-Programming Update-On June 30,2021, the Non-Fiction Book Club will meet in person at the APL. The Friends met in person today. The Mystery Book Club has decided that it will meet in person in the warm months and on Zoom in the winter months. Crafts and Cooking are still on Zoom for now. Summer Reading Kick-off is June 23,2021. Events will be outside with Mr. Vinny strolling around as well as other activities for entertainment.

-OCLN Update-The switch from RB Digital to Overdrive for magazines went smoothly. There have been a lot of Library Directors retiring or leaving their positions in the last few months. Deb will be off the OCLN Executive Board as of June 30, 2021.

-Friends Update-The Friends made about \$735 at the Book Sale. This included the sale of books and raffles. They plan to do the same type of Book Sale next year. The next Friends meeting is September 20,2021.

-Other-The Union contract was settled on the day of Town Meeting. There was the addition of the Juneteenth Holiday that needed to be negotiated. The process was different this year and it was long. Deb may need to tap into State Aid at the end of the fiscal year for the salary line to make ends meet.

Building Issues

-Portico Tables/Seating-The seating under the portico is working well. People are using the space and are happy. The chairs are being brought in and out daily. Weymouth has some permanent outdoor seating that Deb is going to look at to see if it would work for the APL. The extended Wi-Fi has also been very popular. Laptops are still being loaned out and this service will continue. The Board of Library Commissioners will be administering a program with Wi-Fi Hot Spots that can be loaned to patrons. Deb is going to a meeting on Monday to get more information on the program.

-Water Bubbler Conversion-Deb is going to get in touch with Greg Gouthro about getting a water bottle filling station to replace the water bubbler.

-Painting-Director's Office-Carrie Bates did a wonderful job painting Deb's office.

-Other-There is roadwork being done on Gliniewicz Way. A bike lane connecting the Middle/High School to the Beaver Brook School is being put in.

-Current Library Issues

-COVID-19 Service Update-In accordance with the State, patrons are now able to come into the Library unmasked. The staff is comfortable with working with the public masked or unmasked. There is one chair at each of the tables, but if a group comes in and wants to sit together, chairs will be made available for the group. The Children's Room is open to all. Toys that can be cleaned easily are out now. More chairs will be put out in the Children's Room and YA Room soon. The puzzle is back out. Traffic has been light but will pick up as the summer goes along. The Whitman and Hingham Libraries opened up on June 1, 2021. Whitman's Children's programs will be virtual this summer. Books do not need to be quarantined any more. Curbside is now being treated as a regular hold. Patrons can pick up their holds at the front desk or they can call and someone will take their holds to the door. For some patrons, this option works best so the service will continue.

-FY22 Budget-The Budget passed Town Meeting.

-Summer Reading Program-June 23,2021 is the kick-off for the Summer Reading Program. In person Toddler Times, Story Hours, Dungeon and Dragons program, crafts, and Book Clubs will offered this summer. All the programs will be held in the Copeland Room.

Old Business

-Attraction Passes-Museum Passes are becoming available. The APL currently has passes to the Boston Children's Museum, Fuller Craft Museum, Mass State's Parking Pass, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Science, Plymouth Plantation (expires at the end of July), Trustees of the Reservations Pass, Patriots Hall of Fame and Zoo New England. People are starting to borrow the passes and as more become available, they will be put up on the website.

-Story Walk-The Story Walk is all ready to be set up on Wednesday, June 9,2021 at Griffins Dairy. Thanks to Amy, Heidi, Sandy and Deb for all the work to get the Story Walk ready. The signs were \$1,500 and were paid for out of the gift account in memory of Joan Donovan. If this Story Walk goes well, Griffins would like to do a few of them each year.

-Other-Thanks to all who were able to come to the Library clean-up day. The windows look great.

New Business

-Study Rooms/Summer Study Space-Marty recommends that the Study Rooms remain closed at least until September 1st. An email was sent out to Abington Public School Personnel to let them know that they can reserve outdoor space to tutor this summer.

-Job Description Review-Non-Union Library Assistant-**MOTION to approve the Job Description for the Library Assistant was made by Jake, seconded by Gail and accepted unanimously.**

-Library Assistant Search-The advertisement for the Library Assistant position will be posted tomorrow.

-Food Truck Impact/Opportunities-The Food Trucks will be set up in the Library parking lot on Wednesday evenings from 4-7 through October for the Food Truck Rally. This will not impact the Library right away but starting on Labor Day the Library will be open until 8:30pm with very limited parking available to patrons. The Friends are going to have a book cart sale during the Food Truck Rally and Deb and Sandy will be registering patrons for summer reading and Library cards. Having so many people in the parking lot will give the Library opportunities to get more patrons involved with the APL.

-Library Hours Restoration Plan-The Library will be slowly adding hours from now until September. On September 11, 2021, the Library will re-open on Saturdays.

-Other-Brockton Public Library is sponsoring a poetry program that the APL will be promoting.

-Other-Henry has suggested looking into getting one of the storage containers that the schools use for the storage of outdoor furniture.

-Other-**MOTION to close the Library on June 18, 2021, for the Juneteenth Holiday was made by Gail, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.**

-Other-On August 6, 2021, the Trustees will host a Staff Appreciation Breakfast. Gail will be in touch with the Board members as the date gets closer.

Next Meeting:

July 19, 2021 at 7:00pm

September 13, 2021 at 7:00pm

Motion to adjourn at 8:50 pm was made by Gerry, seconded by Carrie and accepted unanimously.