

**Abington Public Library  
Board of Library Trustees**

Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2024

Called to Order 7:06pm

**Attendees:** Henry DiCarlo, Chair

Gail Bergin, Vice Chair

Laura Brink

Sue Crowley

Mary Gillis

Gerry Haas

Barbara McLaughlin

Deborah Grimmert, Library Director

**Absent:** Jake O'Neill

Carrie Murray

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- Minutes of the meeting held on June 10 were reviewed by the Board.

**MOTION to approve the June 10, 2024 minutes was made by Sue, seconded by Laura and accepted unanimously with Gerry and Mary abstaining.**

**Chairman's Report**

- The Day Lily sale will be held on July 13, 2024.
- We are going to start succession planning for future retirements. The personnel subcommittee will meet to discuss.

**Library Director's Report**

- Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports: Physical checkouts were down a little in June over last year but digital is up so we are up overall. Attendance at all programs was up. For FY24 digital circulation is up over FY23 and total patron registration is also up over FY23.
- FY25 Opening Financial Report: The FY25 budget looks good.
- Friends Update: On hiatus but they did have a small table out at Summer Reading kickoff and made about \$33.

- OCNL Update: Strategic Planning Committee will wrap up in September. The Strategic Plan is done. There may be repercussions from the closing of Eastern Nazarene College which is part of OCLN. It will especially affect interlibrary loans for religious texts.
- Programming Update: Things are good. Summer programs are going well.
- ARIS Preview: Deb is making progress. It is due 8/16.
- Other: The New England Aquarium pass renewed. It will only be available September through May. This is a real loss as it is a very popular pass. It will be \$50 less.

### **Building Issues**

- Roof: No roof issues but we are continuing to follow the various emails.
- HVAC: Water was on the floor and leaking into Tech Services. The new HVAC contractors came out several times and it is currently working. The town manager will try to find money for an engineering study on the new HVAC.
- Other: The exterior automatic door is not working. There is a giant wasp nest by the staff entrance. The DPW sprayed it once and will spray it again.

### **Current Library Issues**

- Civic Hub LSTA Grant Update: The grant is almost done. We have about \$3,000 left to spend. We have bought an ICA pass with some of the grant money.
- Summer Reading Program: The Summer Reading kickoff was a huge success. The kids are currently out-reading the adults.
- FY2025 Budget: The budget started July 1<sup>st</sup>. It looks good for FY25.
- Town Wage and Classification Study: No updates.
- Patron Chromebooks and hot spots: The missing Chromebook is back. We are getting 2 new Chromebooks for \$647. One will stay in house. We will have 5 in total. We reviewed the hot spot policy and they will now only be available to Abington Residents. **Motion to approve the Hot Spot Lending Policy as amended was made by Mary and seconded by Gerry. It was approved unanimously.**

## Old Business

- Summer Story Walk: The Story Walk is going well. The new story is being laminated and will be put up in a few weeks.
- FY24 Closing: State aid will pay the custodian. We spent a lot out of state aid in FY24 for computers and staff chairs.
- Trust Fund Follow-Up: We are still working on finding the interest which did not post from 2 months in 2024.
- TAB Overnight: The TAB kids were appreciative that the Board approved their overnight.

## New Business

- Children's Internet/Computer Use Policy: We reviewed the current policy and are changing the policy to **not** filter the Internet. **Motion was made by Laura and seconded by Barbara to approve changes as written. It was approved unanimously.**
- YA Internet/Computer Use Policy: We reviewed the current policy and will remove all references to tablets as there are no tablets in the YA room. We are adding a reference to the consequences to vandalizing the computers. **Motion was made by Gail and seconded by Sue to approve the policy as amended. It was approved unanimously.**
- Policies and Town Administration: The Select Board has requested the Town Manager to review policies for all departments. Deb will forward links to our website and the MBLC website so he can review both our policies and state policies. Policies that are not on our website will be made available to him as well. Deb emphasized that the Board of Trustees sets the policies for the Library.

**Next Meeting: September 9 at 7:00pm**

**Motion to recess at 8:34pm was made by Gerry, seconded by Barbara, and accepted unanimously.**