

Abington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees

Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2023

Called to Order 7:02 pm

Attendees: Henry DiCarlo, Chair

Gail Bergin, Vice Chair

Carrie Murray, Secretary

Laura Brink

Gerry Haas

Mary Gillis

Barbara McLaughlin

Deborah Grimmett, Library Director

Absent: Sue Crowley

Jake O'Neill

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Minutes of the meeting held on October 16, 2023 were reviewed by the Board.

MOTION to approve the October 16, 2023 minutes was made by Gerry, seconded by Laura, and accepted unanimously with Mary and Barbara abstaining.

Chairman's Report

- State Ethics Test Reminder – a reminder to complete the ethics test.

Library Director's Report

- Monthly Financial and Statistical Reports: Everything is in good shape and we are where we are supposed to be.
- Friends Update: The fall book sale was very successful, and they raised \$932 (\$350 from the bake sale). A castle and dollhouse are being donated and the raffle will begin on Wednesday.
- MLS Annual Meeting Update: Deb attended the meeting and all went well.
- Rotary 80th Anniversary Celebration: We were asked to speak at the Abington Rotary Club Anniversary. Deb talked about the Abington Library and shared information from the Wales Room.
- Attended a Veterans Day event and it was a heartwarming event.

- Toys for Tots Dropoff Bin: The library will have the dropoff bin until December 15th.
- Programming Update: November 18th – a concert will be held covering historical protest songs at 3pm. The first meeting of the banned book club was a big success and good turnout. Kids and Teen Programs are going well.

Building Issues

- Boiler Update: The boiler arrived today. We have a timeline for the work, starting with preliminary plumbing this week. Monday, November 27th will be the removal of the old boiler.
- Boiler Emergency Switch Update: The switch is being worked on and almost complete. The installation should happen soon.

Current Library Issues

- Civic Hub CLSTA Grant: The “Ask a Muslim Anything” program was successful. The Banned Book Club will meet again on November 28th.
- Town Wage and Classification Study: No new updates.
- Website Refresh: Deb shared the new library website as of now. Most of the website has been built. A few more things need to be completed. We are hoping to go live soon after Thanksgiving. The website company has been great.
- Staff WiFi Update: The secure access points for the staff WiFi need to be updated. Magna5 will be installing new access points and software updates soon. The company will cover these services for the next 3 years. Workflows and the staff email, as well as other staff software, need to be on secure WiFi.

Old Business

- New England Aquarium Pass Update: It has had 22 checkouts since last month.
- Social Media Backup Storage: It has been set up and it is working.
- FY2025 Budget Submission: Deb is meeting with Andrew and Scott next week. The budget is complete.

New Business

- Request for Reconsideration Form Update: The form has been updated to reflect that all communication with Abington Library regarding the reconsideration of library materials will be on public record.

MOTION to approve the updated Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials Form was made by Mary, seconded by Barbara, and accepted unanimously.

- FY25 Action Plan Update: This Action Plan states what we are planning to do in the next 5 years.

MOTION to approve the updated FY25 Action Plan was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry, and accepted unanimously.

- Staff Chairs: The current staff chairs need to be replaced. We are looking to get 8 new chairs from WB Mason.
- Other: The Charter Review committee is active again.

Next Meeting: January 8, 2024 at 7pm.

Motion to adjourn at 7:54pm was made by Carrie, seconded by Gerry and accepted unanimously.