



# BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Thursday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**TIME:** 5:30pm

**LOCATION:** Main Library Conference Rm  
59 Marion Rd., Wareham, MA

**Board Members/Attendees Present:** Mel Dyer (Chair), Aprilleigh Lauer (Vice Chair), Deanne Bonnar (Secretary), Mallory Callinan, Linda Jackson, Jennifer Lucas, George Ripley (Director), Nancy Rice, Joanne Robertson, Mary McKenzie (Reporter).

**Board Members Absent:** Selectman Representative.

**Call to order:** 5:37pm by Mel D.

**Announcements:** We were reminded of the play, *Complaint Department*, put on by the Wareham Library Foundation on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Redman Hall. Tickets are \$25.

Joanne R. announced that she had been sworn in as a BoLT board member on October 8<sup>th</sup> 2019. Mel D. has not received the papers. After some discussion of Joanne's current status there was a general consensus that she should not vote at this meeting.

**Public Comment:** Nothing at this time.

**Review of the Minutes:** Motion to pass with minor punctuation changes made by Aprilleigh L.; seconded by Mallory C.; passed (7-0-0).

**Friends Report:** Nancy R. reported that the Friends' Sept. book sale netted \$1549.02; next sale starts October 28<sup>th</sup>. On November 9<sup>th</sup> there will be a jewelry sale. The dates and hours of the book sale are to be determined. The Holiday Fair is December 7<sup>th</sup>. The Celtic Music Festival is December 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the circulation desk.

**Foundation Report:** Mel D. is still working on getting a date to meet with Foundation and Friends chairs. Schedules are complicated. Mallory C. suggested that we use volunteers to make welcome packets for the Friends and the Foundation.

**Correspondence:** Nothing at this time.

**Old Business:** It is unclear if the Selectmen ever received our revised bylaws. George R. will follow up with them.

George R. announced that the library pass policies have been revised, updated and implemented. The Patriots Place Hall of Fame has been added; Heritage Gardens has been taken out.

Aprilleigh L. reported on her investigation of the "First Amendment audits." She recommends that if people show up to do one, the best thing to do is to ignore them. George R. added that the American Library Association has stated that libraries are a limited public forum. Patrons have an assumption of privacy, but not so the public employees. At this point it is best to leave the audit issue alone. There is already a law that covers disturbing the peace.

**New Business:** Mel D. reminded the board that we need another board member. We need to increase the diversity on the board. All of us are encouraged to look.

**Director's Report:** George R. presented the Sept. Monthly Report. The drops in registered patrons' numbers are reversing as the staff continue to weed out old cards. New registrants are beginning to make up the difference. The door count was 6,601. Our Facebook likes are continuing to climb. Steve, Kathy and George are sharing social media responsibilities. It was recommended that staff look into getting a high school or Tabor Academy student to help with social media. They might take it as a project.

There is an increase in computer use. Many people are using the library computers to look for jobs. The computers at Spinney are very slow and printing is difficult because the interface is out of date. Staff are working on the problems. There is a free municipal internet that serves all Wareham offices. Perhaps the library can get on the network.

The library is partnering with the Land Trust to do a film series and discussion on the environment.

Two new staff, Nichole Mercer and Morgan Wahlstrom, have been hired and are doing well. They are excellent additions to the library team.

Adult programs are also doing well. There are currently eight regularly scheduled events from computer classes to the Mystery Book club, a chess club and Bronx Jazz. Edith Maxwell, a mystery book writer, met with the Mystery Book club earlier this month. Spinney Story Time has been changed to 10:00am to make the time consistent with the main library times.

The Roving Archivist visited in September. She commended the library with how well the staff had done with minimal archivist training and made some suggestions for improvements. She will send a report with next steps in the next two months. We are now qualified for a paid archivist intern. We will be applying for this program.

Town meeting is October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the High School. Trustees are urged to attend.

**Next Meeting:** November 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm.

**Motion to Adjourn:** 6:52pm - Made by Aprilleigh L.; seconded by Mallory C.; passed (7-0-0).

Addendum: As the meeting was breaking up it was agreed to put the time of our meeting on our November agenda.