



# BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Thursday, September 19, 2019

**TIME:** 5:30pm

**Location:** Conference Room Main Library

**Board Members/Attendees Present:** Mel Dyer (Chair), Aprilleigh Lauer, Deanne Bonnar, Mallory Callinan, Linda Jackson, George Ripley (Director), Nancy Rice, Joanne Robertson (Guest).

**Board Members Absent:** Jennifer Lucas, Selectman Representative.

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

**Announcements:** None.

## **Public Comment:**

Nothing at this time.

## **Review of Minutes:**

There was a short discussion of the handling of personal information. Those things already in the public domain will be included in the minutes. Other personal information will be included where it might have relevance.

The minutes were accepted with revisions 5-0-0. Motion by Aprilleigh L. Seconded by Linda J.

## **Friends Report:**

Nancy R. passed out a calendar of upcoming events. She reported that the Friends' August book sale netted \$1680; next sale starts September 23, 2019. Land's End Concert final total was \$1950 w/\$1600 anonymous donation. Memberships have brought in \$4,230. Young adult book prices are being raised from \$.25 to \$.50.

The book cart is closing November 1, 2019. Some books from the Stone Room may be decommissioned and sold thru the Friends' book fair.

The Imagination Library has 300 children enrolled. It has 63 graduates to date. Children are in the program from 0-4 and graduate at age 5.

## **Foundation Report:**

Nothing at this time.

## **Correspondence:**

George R. received an announcement of State aid to libraries from MLBC. It will be put in the BoLT file at the reference desk. He added that libraries will be helping with the coming decennial census. They

are also sponsoring a webinar October 1, 2019 at 2:00 pm on resume writing, workshops on effective management and getting grant support.

Aprilleigh L. brought up the e-mail from Maura Deedy about First Amendment audits which have been enacted to test First Amendment rights. Activists have been filming in public libraries, sometimes causing a disturbance. It is unclear what the response should be, or if we should develop a policy. Aprilleigh will investigate and bring more information to our next meeting.

### **Old Business:**

Mel D. is still working with Priscilla Porter (Friends) and Liz Wiley (Foundation) on organizing a joint meeting of the Trustees, Friends and the Foundation. They are having trouble finding a time when all can meet.

### **New Business:**

"Buy a Brick for Spinney" bricks will now be sold out of yet to be identified local businesses. A suggestion was made to post information on our website.

### **Director's Report:**

George R. presented the August Monthly Report. He stated reported that some of the numbers on the report are off slightly because staff have been overstretched due to recent resignations. He has tentatively filled both positions. Due to a lack of staffing, including his paternity leave, Spinney was closed Fridays in August. A volunteer from Friends sat at Spinney on Thursdays for staff/patron safety reasons. Spinney is again open on Fridays.

The door count is up more than 1300 from last year at the same time. Facebook "likes" are increasing. Newly registered patrons are beginning to reverse registration declines that occurred when outdated registrations were being weeded out.

Programs are going well. George gave a shout out to Johanna Fredrickson (past chair of BoLT) for her major assistance to Marsha with 2019 children's summer programs.

The HVAC system is operating better. Replacement costs are included in the capital improvement plan which will be presented at Town Meeting on October 28, 2019. We are all urged to attend.

Interviews for new assistants have been conducted resulting in one hire and a possible second hire.

### **Trustee Matters:**

Mel circulated a BoLT contact list for updating and checking. It will be filed with the Town Clerk's office and will also be kept in the Trustee's file at the library.

The Board heard from Joanne Robertson about her active interest in being on BoLT. After she left the room her application was discussed. Motion to accept the application was made by Mallory C. Seconded by Aprilleigh L. Passed 5-0-0.

Aprilleigh L. reported on the Selectman's Meeting she attended as a representative of BoLT. Although we had been invited to the meeting, it turned out we were not on the agenda. However, they made space for Aprilleigh's report. After thanking them for helping us get recertified, she shared how the library has been growing and expanding programs. She also reminded them of some of the concerns that remain. The report was well received.

The Director presented some policy recommendations about the use of the drop box for returning museum passes. After a discussion about making sure that working parents are able to return passes without losing work time, Aprilleigh L. moved to accept the policy with revisions which allowed the drop box to be used. Mallory C. seconded the motion. Passed 5-0-0.

**Next Meeting:** Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm.

**Motion to Adjourn:** 7:30pm – Motion made by Linda J. Seconded by Mallory C. Passed (5-0-0).