



Wareham Free Library Board of Library Trustees Annual Report July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Trustees:

Chair - Melissa Dyer

Vice Chair – Joanne Robertson

Secretary – unfilled position, minutes completed on rotating member basis

Member – Aprilleigh Lauer (resigned November 29, 2021)

Member - Deanne Bonner

Member - Nancy Rice

Member – Margit Price (appointed 9/23/2021)

Member – Holli Van Nest (appointed 10/6/2021)

Member – Sarah Corbitt (appointed 4/25/2022)

The Wareham BoLT met virtually via ZOOM for the July 2021 through April 2022 meetings, returning to onsite, in-person meetings for the May & June 2022 meetings.

The Board's primary focus was to support the Director and library staff as library usage, programs and protocols adopted to facilitate & ensure ongoing library access for Wareham residents during the pandemic began the process of "reopening." Secondary foci were:

- To assist with the maintenance of library certification status.
- To update current BoLT Bylaws to be more inclusive and clearly define term limits
- To work with Town Clerk to update and rectify gaps in WFL BoLT records on town website
- To continue 2021/22 goal of building a strong recruitment, onboarding, & orientation process to attract new applicants to the BoLT that ensured that underrepresented areas of the Wareham community had advocacy for their chosen library resources.
 - The Board was able to define and develop "living" documents and procedures to support both current and new BoLT members including:
 - Introduction to town requirements and all pertinent trainings, documents, resource links
 - Introduction to MBLC requirements and MBLC Resource links
 - BoLT Bylaws
 - Trustee Job description
 - Description of "Three-Legged Stool" framework of BoLT, Foundation, Friends
 - Current contact list of BoLT members
 - Short & extensive BoLT member biographies
 - WFL Library staff biographies
 - Updated WFL Trustee Site to include aforementioned pertinent documents
 - The Board created a subcommittee to explore further recruitment opportunities (goals & prioritization of such, organizations to approach for membership, development of recruitment flyer, etc.)
- To build advocacy and support for the library as the role of community libraries continues to evolve beyond that of a "building housing books." In doing so, the Board worked to define the Wareham Free Library's role by building and maintaining open communication with town leaders, state representatives and Wareham residents to encourage their ongoing support of the library.
 - BoLT members maintained lines of communication with town government to highlight the value of the Wareham Free Library to the community. Agendas and minutes were posted to both the town and library websites to ensure transparency within the public domain.

- **BoLT advocacy worked to encourage fund raising, active participation by town residents in library programs and resources, and provide a safe and creative haven for Wareham, and the surrounding communities, diverse residents.**
 - **A survey questionnaire was created for current residents to identify their needs and thus facilitate the creation of intentional, desired library services and programs.**
 - **An Anti-Hate/Anti-Racist Statement was developed and adopted by the BoLT to further support intellectual freedom and the sharing of balanced information that promotes the ideals of inclusivity, the inherent dignity and rights of every person and enhances/advances diversity and social/racial justice.**

Finally, the board chair joined town leadership in welcoming a new Library Director to Wareham, in addition to welcoming three new BoLT members to the roster. The current BoLT have worked diligently with the Director and Library staff to ensure that the library remains a living, growing, thriving community resource.