

Attleboro Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2021

Due to COVID-19 there are state and local restrictions on gatherings, resulting in this meeting being a virtual Board meeting on the Zoom Conferencing platform. The meeting was called to order by Board President Charlie Oliver at 5:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES

Trustees: Linda Binns, Beth Gould, Judy Lusk, Diane Mangiaratti, Charlie Oliver, Mahesh Patel, Tobey Reed, Eileen Struminski, Tricia Svendsen.

Interim Library Director: Amy Rhilinger

Library Staff: Carol Waite

Charlie read aloud the notice stating that this virtual meeting would be open to the public through the Zoom Conferencing Platform.

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 9, 2020 meeting were approved.

BUSINESS REQUIRED BY LAW

None.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Mahesh presented the Treasurer’s Report. Warrant #7 in the amount of \$1418.03 and a single gift of \$40 were reported. The report was accepted as presented.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Amy submitted a written report, mentioning the following

- The library has been closed for two weeks with staff working from home. They are currently transitioning to curbside pickup.
- An issue with the heating system threatened closure of the library for Jan. 14, but after planning for that, Amy was informed by the contractor that they would likely have heat.
- The library did not receive the MA Office on Disabilities grant.
- The annual holiday party for staff cannot be held due to pandemic protocols. A request was made for gift cards for staff in lieu of the party. The Board approved gifting \$30 for a gift card for each of the 21 staff members.

BUILDING ENVELOPE PROJECT

- Charlie reported that every Tuesday morning there are Project Meetings with the contractors.
- Roof demolition is underway.
- The ornamental iron works are at the contractor’s site being restored/refinished.
- HVAC work is to begin next month.
- Window replacement encounters high cost issues, enough that the scope of the project might have to be reduced. Decisions are to be made as whether to recaulk or replace some windows and whether to purchase windows that open or those that cannot be opened. This will continue to be discussed at Project Meetings.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Charlie reported that

- The e-rate funding consultant that worked with the schools will help with the RFP and will be compensated with a percentage of the discount on the e-rate.
- Jack Baptist, a Sensata retiree, is assisting with the technology planning.
- By spring they should be able to get to work on the technology set-up.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- CIPA – Amy said that she's been told that filtering can be done using equipment in the building rather than using software. More input from the vendor that's hired is needed. We have until 2022, so will continue to get information.
- Brainfuse – The links are live and it's ready to use. It will be advertised/promoted soon.
- No Trespass Patron – Charlie wrote a letter to the patron who had been barred from the library due to his slashing tires of other patrons. He was told that he is still not eligible to visit the library. No timeline on the suspension was specified.

NEW BUSINESS

Literacy Center Technology

The Board had previously discussed whether we could enhance the Literacy Center technology while doing the technology work in the library. Jack Baptist did a walk-through at the Literacy Center and concluded that it doesn't make sense to run a line to the Center with our current project and overload the library's bandwidth. However, Sensible Computer, a local company that takes care of the Literacy Center's Technology, suggested that they could get better reception on the third floor by increasing the access points.

A motion was made to provide \$930 to get three new access points and switches for the Literacy Center in honor of former Library Director, Chris Johnson. The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Board Members

Linda Binns and Eileen Struminski submitted notice of their resignations from the APL Board of Trustees. Linda has served on the Board for 30 years, and Eileen has served for 25 years. Their service over so many years is greatly appreciated!

Director Search

Three candidates are being interviewed for the position of Library Director. Board Members, Beth, Diane, and Tobey will be involved with the interviews as well as the Personnel Director and the Mayor. Ultimately, the Mayor makes the decision on hiring.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Next meeting: February 10, 2021

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Svendsen