

Attleboro Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes – Feb. 9, 2022

ATTENDEES

Trustees: Beth Gould, Cindy Lorincz, Judy Lusk, Diane Mangiaratti, Charlie Oliver, Mahesh Patel, David Pierce, Tobey Reed, Tricia Svendsen

Library Director: Amy Rhilinger

APL Staff: Katie Butler

1. Introductions - Katie Butler - Circulation Supervisor

2. Minutes

Minutes from the January meeting were approved with the following corrections:

- Under Director's Report - Other: Big Read new partners should read "ADA Coordinator/Building Inspector" instead of "Building Commission."
- Under New Business regarding state aid - should read "state aid requirement for open hours has been waived" instead of "may be waived."

3. Treasurer's Report

Mahesh presented Warrant #7 in the amount of \$2,527.17

Current balance in the checking account is \$11,883.29, and the balance in Rockland Trust is \$1,796,197.00.

Charlie asked for a motion to accept the report. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

The amount of Warrant #7 will be transferred from Rockland Trust to the checking account.

4. Director's Report

Amy submitted a written report and gave the following highlights:

- Staff members Carrie and Dan are coordinating the move of the history room. They will do the bulk of the work, and then volunteers will be involved in the move.
- There have been lots of patron requests for history materials.
- A patron gave a rave review on using the digitization of the Sun Chronicle.
- The library has been without printing capability for the public for the last six months because of other demands on the city's tech staff.
- One patron expressed frustration at not being able to play YouTube videos on the computers. There is a problem, and the issue is being worked on.
- The Community Garden will be holding registration at the Library.
- Friday story hours have been well attended.
- The Friends of Attleboro Public Library are planning Library Giving Day and a Scarf & Jewelry sale.

5. Unfinished Business

- A.** Charlie reported that some of Sensata's upper management people were taken on a tour to show them what the Library has done with their donations. They were impressed. The tour included talk about Library plans and needs going forward. Charlie feels positive

about Sensata partnering with the Library, and he looks forward to forging a strong relationship. Sensata's CEO is scheduled to come for a tour as well.

Twenty more laptops - Sensata donation - have arrived. Charlie is not sure how Sensata wishes to publicize their involvement with the Library.

B. Celebration

The celebration is still on hold.

C. Accounting System Upgrade

Charlie and Mahesh will begin working on the accounting system upgrade.

6. New Business

A. Mahesh suggested getting someone to work on improving the appearance of the outside entrance to the library. Amy said that the Garden Club will be here in the spring as they usually are, and their work will improve the look.

B. Code of Ethics

The Board reviewed the ALA Code of Ethics. There was discussion on the ninth principle regarding the meaning of "dismantle systemic and individual bias." Ultimately the Board voted unanimously to adopt the ALA Code of Ethics.

C. Fines

Diane presented information on trends and issues regarding charging fines for overdue materials. There was discussion about social inequity, material return rates, staff management of fine collection and policies of other libraries. Amy said that the city has collected an average of \$10,000 a year in overdue fines over the last 10 years, not including the pandemic years. Although the Board does not have the authority to eliminate overdue fines, a motion was made to support the elimination of fines for overdue materials. The Board voted unanimously in favor. Amy will take this information to city officials.

D. Amy asked about the timing of her Performance Evaluation by the Board. It will be conducted in June.

E. Nominating Committee

Charlie appointed Judy, Cindy and Diane to the Nominating Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Next meeting: March 9, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Svendsen