

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

ATTENDEES

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

Library Director: Amy Rhilinger

APL Staff: Krystal Brown

1. Introductions - Krystal Brown, Children's Librarian

2. Minutes

Minutes from the February meeting were approved.

3. Business Required by Law

None

4. Treasurer's Report

Mahesh presented Warrant #8 in the amount of \$6,533.62.

Charlie asked about line item #34, ProQuest. Amy said it is an online database for Reference.

Current balance in the checking account is \$13,337.48, and the balance in Rockland Trust is \$1,749,275.00.

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

The amount of Warrant #8, \$6,533.62, will be transferred from Rockland Trust to the checking account.

5. Director's Report

Amy submitted a written report commenting on the following:

- She shared a resignation letter from Mary Z., a longtime volunteer in the Reference Dept., who gave high praise to the Library and staff members.
- The building still has quirks, with the heat in the Children's Room and the History Room not functioning well. The HVAC installer will be working on this issue.
- A surprise \$11,000 electric bill was received for February. They had been told the HVAC system uses more electricity, but that the gas bill would disappear. They have contacted National Grid to check into this exorbitant bill.
- The Garden Club is eager to help beautify the entrance.
- At a reception at City Hall for Mark Cooper, outgoing Municipal Council President, Amy was able to talk with city councilors and state representatives about the library. The new Problem Oriented Policing (POP) team met with Amy and familiarized themselves with the building and some of the patrons they may be interacting with.
- Amy shared a draft of the Library budget on an Excel spreadsheet and will be meeting with the Budget Administrator and the Mayor soon.
- Charlie mentioned that the state aid formula involves meeting minimum standards on the number of hours the Library is open and the percentage of the total budget that must be spent on materials. The Board will get further information on this.
- There will be a change in print vendor due to unsatisfactory service.
- Sensata employees may do some maintenance at the Library on their Volunteer Day in May.
- Krystal Brown continues to coordinate Library visits for second grade students citywide.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Celebration

The celebration is still on hold.

B. Accounting System Upgrade

Work on the upgrade will proceed after tax season.

C. Elimination of Fines

The Mayor is not inclined to eliminate fines altogether, but supports a liberal fee-waiving policy.

D. City Council / Personnel Discussion

Amy shared the Strategic Plan with the City Council members, and discussion will continue.

7. New Business

A. Nominating Committee

For the Nominating Committee Judy presented the slate of Officers as follows:

President - Charlie Oliver

Vice President - Diane Mangiaratti

Treasurer - Mahesh Patel

Secretary - Tricia Svendsen

Charlie asked if there were other nominations or if anyone was interested in volunteering for a position. There were no nominations.

The Board voted unanimously for the slate of Officers as presented.

The Board voted to waive the by-law that limits the President to three consecutive terms.

B. Director's Evaluation

The Director's Evaluation is conducted at the end of the fiscal year (June 30). Charlie would like to have Board members' input by the May Board meeting. Judy will email the evaluation form to Board members.

C. Other

- Amy asked to run "Amnesty April" where food for local food pantries could be collected in lieu of fines. The Board voted to approve.
- Board members were reminded of the Jewelry and Scarf sale that The Friends will hold on April 30 and were given information on The Friends' Library Giving Day being held on April 6.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Next meeting: April 13, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Svendsen