

Attleboro Public Library Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes—September 20, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Trustees: Judy Lusk, Diane Mangiaratti, Mahesh Patel, Tobey Reed, David Pierce, Beth Gould
Library Director: Amy Rhilinger
Staff: Dan Boudreau

1. Minutes

Minutes from the June 14, 2023 meeting were reviewed. A Motion to approve was made, seconded, and approved.

2. Business Required by Law

None. However, Amy noted recent efforts on the part of some states to remove the ALA Code of Ethics from their libraries. In light of this, Amy emphasized the importance of the APL remaining committed to the ALA Code of Ethics.

3. Treasurer's Report

- a. Mahesh presented Warrant #3 in the amount of \$1,335.38. A Motion was made, seconded, and approved for Warrant #3.
- b. The current balance at Santander Bank is \$1732.07. A Motion was made, seconded, and approved to transfer the necessary funds from Rockland to Santander.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Judy provided an update from the Policy Review Committee. Noting that no libraries seem to have a Volunteer Policy, the APL will not work to carry one, either.
- b. We are eliminating the policy called *Rules for the Internet* from 2002 and replacing it with an updated policy from March 2017 called *Rules for Use of Computers, Tablets, and Internet (WiFi)*. A motion to approve the policy was made, seconded, and approved.

5. Director's Report

- Dan Boudreau has been hired as a full-time staff member at Hopkinton Library. His presence and work at the APL will be greatly missed.
- An updated job description for the Senior Library Technician position has been approved by the city. The position will be posted soon.
- This past month, two websites were hacked. Amy believes a lightning strike compromised the software used for checking books in and out. The APL is currently operating with a "work-around" software.
- Outreach efforts continue. The highest number of attendees for the downtown back-to-school event appeared to be at the library.
- Summer programs, especially the karaoke event, was a big success. Amy indicated that she is working hard to make sure staff are not getting inundated with responsibilities for various programs, as well as to make sure programs are consistent with the mission and purpose of the APL.

- “Stress Less Read More” will be held on Saturday, November 18th.
- The friends will be sponsoring the pumpkin painting event. This year’s event will include three times the number of pumpkins as last year.
- As a matter of reference, Amy noted that she spends a great deal of time in conversation with individuals about book banning, school committee elections, and other community concerns.
- She will be adding the *Circulation Policy* to the list of policies requiring review by the Policy Committee.

6. Unfinished Business

- a. Electronic Sign. Jeff Nelson at Aflac has promised an additional \$500 for this project. We have also sent a letter to the Walsh Company to invite their support.
- b. We have approximately \$38,000 of the needed \$50,000.
- c. There was some discussion about other possible revenue sources for this project, including spending state-aid monies that could be replenished in FY2024. At this time, given the number of other projects also needing attention around the library, this particular idea was met with some reservation on the part of the Board.

7. FY2024 Budget

The following points were highlighted:

- a. Last year’s budget totaled \$78,500. This year’s budget is \$83,000.
- b. This year’s proposed Trust Funds budget totals \$83,000. It includes material, equipment, and services costs, as well as Fund Management expenses.
- c. Mahesh reminded us that the fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30. However, the Board doesn’t approve the Trust Funds budget until September, which means monies are spent from the budget for two months before the expenses are approved by the Board.
- d. A Motion to approve the Trust Funds budget was made, seconded, and approved.

8. New Business

The following events are upcoming:

“Let Freedom Read,” Saturday, October 7th, 10 – 12 p.m.

Pumpkin Painting, October 21st, 10 – 1 p.m.

Neighbors in Dialogue, Wednesday, October 25th, 6 p.m.

Friends Book Sale, Saturday, October 18th, 9 – 2 p.m.

Next meeting will be October 11th at 6:30 p.m.

A Motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
David Pierce