

Approved 3/9/2023

## BARNET PUBLIC LIBRARY - BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – February 9, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:09.

**In attendance:** Linda Cochrane, Dylan Ford, Laura Goldberg, Julie Roos, Jackie Verley and Sue Wood. Also attending was a candidate for board membership, Becca Pedersen.

### **Agenda:**

No additions or deletions.

Minutes from prior meetings on January 12 and January 18 were approved.

### **Board Chair Report:**

This was Julie Roos's final meeting as board chair. Julie spoke about her 8 years as board chair as being a time of personal growth and "transformational." In the past 10 years there have been many changes at Barnet Library, including significant evolution of the role and activities of the library board. Julie stated that "It has been a pleasure and an honor" for her to serve on the library board. The board expresses appreciation and gratitude for Julie's years of service!

Our new chairperson after Town Meeting in March will be Jackie Verley.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

This month's treasurer's report had many blank lines which will be replaced by figures for the next board meeting in March. We were reminded by Sue Wood, treasurer, that the actual appropriation does not take place until October.

There will be a future discussion about moving funds from the checking account, which currently holds almost \$60,000, to the Edward Jones investment account.

### **Librarian's report:**

- The indoor lighting upgrade has been completed! The cost was exactly the amount of the grant. The library is much brighter with the new LED overhead lights.
- Barnet Library has joined the Association for Rural and Small Libraries. Through this membership, our library has received a \$5,000 gift card from Scholastic. This is more money than our current total budget for books, and will allow Dylan to purchase many new children's books.
- Summer Reading grant opens 2/10/23. McIndoes Library has asked to have Modern Times Theater again for this coming summer.
- Dylan reported on the recent announcement that the Vermont State University will be closing its libraries (Lyndon, Johnson, Vermont Tech and Castleton), moving to an all-digital system and ending access to books. The public has been asked to express their reactions to this news to their representatives, senators and governor as well as to the University.

### **Old Business:**

Art at the Library: Linda announced that the felting class was well-attended with ample donations. The next class will be led by Ashley Wright on the topic of "Succulent Embroidery." So far 5 people have signed up and there is room for more. We also

discussed changing the structure of the children's room, where Art at the Library classes are held, to allow for more unified space for craft classes. This would involve replacing the two central bookcases which are bolted to the floor with multiple carts, which can be moved into various arrangements to accommodate the planned activity.

Library Open House: An open house is planned for March 23th with the theme of "Mud Season." Invitations have been designed. Jackie will take care of printing and preparing the mailing. There will be a cleanup day prior, on March 18<sup>th</sup>. This is a Saturday and the library closes at 2, so we would clean **between 1:30 and 3.**

Cocoa Bar: There will be a cocoa bar during library hours this coming Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Annual Appeal: Thank you notes, using blank cards with the photo of the freshly painted library on the front, will be prepared and copies ordered by Julie at Copies & More. Julie will send out a notice to the board to arrange a time to stuff, address, stamp and mail the thank-you notes.

**Saturday assistant: Ivy Pavik has begun working as Dylan's library assistant on Saturdays.**

**New Business:**

- We have a new board member joining us! Becca Pedersen has agreed to serve and will be nominated and voted in during Town Meeting next month.
- Assistant librarian position: There have been just two people expressing interest in this part time position so far. Dylan is going to continue to post the position, as she has not had a candidate yet whom she feels would truly fit the position. The board agreed that there is no hurry to fill the position and it is preferable to wait for more qualified applicants. There was a long discussion of criteria for the assistant librarian position.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

**Next board meeting will be March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.**

Respectfully,

Laura Goldberg  
Acting Secretary