

APPROVED

BARNET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – May 11, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

In attendance: Linda Cochrane, Dylan Ford, Laura Goldberg, Becca Pedersen, Jackie Verley and Sue Wood.

Agenda:

Additions:

- Fence behind library at edge of ravine – safety concerns.
- Are there keys available for substitutes?
- Pre-arrangement of board backup for library events

Minutes of the 4/13/23 meeting were approved.

Board Chair Report:

See New Business/Board calendar below.

Treasurer's Report:

Cost of the BPL website has increased; next year's budget will need an adjustment to cover the increased expense.

Current treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Librarian's Report:

Dylan has been spending time preparing for this year's Summer Reading Program. She attended an ALA webinar by Tracie Hall, Executive Director of the ALA, on the "All Together Now" theme for this year. This is accessible via YouTube; Dylan recommended it as being inspirational. Ms. Hall emphasized the responsibilities of libraries, as well as focus on a "curriculum of empathy and belonging."

Dylan would like to make the children's room into a viable meeting space where we can comfortably hold events for larger numbers of attendees. Events bring people into the library; once they are there, we can build readers.

A first step is to bring the Barnet and McIndoes libraries "together now" for events.

Other ideas for supporting the summer reading theme:

- Adult summer reading
- Citizen's Challenge bingo cards
- Beanstack
- Local Community Heroes, starting with firefighters in June. Others: Barnet road crew; Joe's Brook Farm farmers, etc.
- Human Library
- Ice cream sundae party/social
- Crafternoons
- Calendar with local photos taken by library patrons
- Holding story hours outside of library at sites in the community

Art at the Library Update:

- Embroidery class on 4/27 went well.
- Next program is by Adair Mulligan of the Connecticut River Joint Commission at the Barnet Meetinghouse on May 23rd. The board discussed more ways to advertise by

distributing posters more widely (at the post office; via Barnet School Friday folders, repeating posting in Front Porch Forum).

- June: Ikebana class with Laurajean Stewart. This class will run from 6:30 to 9 pm. Maximum enrollment is 12; 4 people have already signed up.

New Business:

- Board calendar. Draft presented and a few edits made. We will start looking at individual policies monthly starting at next board meeting.
- Fence at back of library needs to be taken down and replaced for safety of children playing around library building. Town of Barnet will be responsible for making this happen. Dylan will present a request to the Selectboard.
- Keys for library substitutes: There are quite a few keys available – at the Town Clerk's office, upstairs in the Karne Choling office. Dylan will make sure there is a key available at the library for subs.
- It was recommended that we designate 1 or 2 board members as contacts on the rare times Dylan is on vacation so that she will not have to be called with issues when she is away.

Old Business:

- Check in on need for someone to take recycling to the dump: Not needed this month.
- Substitutes for Saturday 5/13: Jackie and Becca will cover library while Dylan is at Barnet Fire Station for recruitment event. Jackie will show Becca book checkout and check-in procedures, etc.
- Next time Dylan may need someone to cover the desk on a Saturday: June 17th. Laura will cover 12-2.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Next meeting will be on June 8th, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month, with the exceptions of December and July.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Goldberg, Secretary