

APPROVED

BARNET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – September 14, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

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

Addition to Agenda: Discussed changing date of October meeting, as Jackie will not be available on the second Thursday. It was agreed that the Board will meet the following Thursday, October 19th

Minutes of the 8/10/23 meeting were approved.

Board Chair Report:

Jackie and Sue met with Edward Jones briefly. Investment strategies will continue unchanged. There was a brief discussion of using funds for improvements to the children's room, such as purchasing moveable shelving to allow for more flexible and varied use of the space; they were reassured that withdrawing funds for this would be a simple process.

Treasurer's Report:

Sue questioned the \$760 charge under Miscellaneous. It turns out to be the amount of the recent credit card bill, and does not belong under the Miscellaneous category. Sue will touch base with Ben Heisholt to correct this. The Treasurer's Report was approved by the Board, with this change.

Librarian's Report:

- Trunk or Treat was approved.
- Although there were relatively few participants in the Summer Reading challenge, the 4 participating adults enjoyed it. Gift certificates were distributed. The Summer Reading paperwork has been done.
- The Vermont Fairy Tale Festival will be on 9/16/23 in Killington. Barnet Library's fairy tale will be "Peter Rabbit."
- McIndoes Library will close to the public 10/1/23. Dylan expects to continue working to cull and rehome books until 11/1/23; the book sale helped, but there is still a lot to do to clear out the collection.
- Substitutes: Four people have expressed interest in being substitutes when Dylan needs to be away.
- Dylan has postponed buying a new vacuum

Art at the Library/Board Events Update: Most of these are on the last Tuesday of each month.

September: No program.

October 29: Cellar Holes with Adair Mulligan. This is being sponsored by Barnet, Ryegate and Peacham libraries as well as the Barnet Historical Society. Linda has booked the Barnet Meeting House, but Linda is working on getting the Barnet School as the venue, since it has better parking and a more central location.

November 28: Wreath making with Annette.

December 5: Felted Ornaments with Sheri Colby-Schenk.

January 23, 2024: Paper Art for Valentine's Day with Rebecca Boardman.

February: Mosaics?

March 26: Mud Season Open House?

April 23 or May 21: History of Barnet with author Kathleen Monroe?

Monthly Policy Reviews:

- Reviewed updates to Procedure for Reconsideration of Materials; approved unanimously.
- Reviewed Exhibits & Displays policy; accepted and approved as written in 5/9/19 edition.
- Reviewed Revision of Policies policy – The board now has a calendar in which 2-3 policies are scheduled for review at each monthly board meeting, thus breaking up the required annual review of all policies into manageable parts. This is working out very well so far.

Annual Appeal letter: We discussed key events of the past year to be included in the annual appeal letter – Trunk or Treat, the Mud Season open house, the Fairy Tale Festival, getting the grant for and updating lighting, \$5K for children's books from Save the Children/Scholastic; joining the Rural Library network, three new computers and plan for mobile bookshelves for the children's room, which are intended to further the mission of the library "to promote social interactions."

Jackie will compose a first draft of the letter, to be worked on at the October board meeting with final draft to be approved in November.

New Business:

See Additions to Agenda above.

Old Business:

Trash/Recycling: Dylan will leave boxed books to go to the transfer station either behind her desk or out on the porch for board members to pick up. There will be books to take every week now due to the work being done to clear out the McIndoes library.

Substitutes: 9/16 will be covered by Kristin Van Aken.

Fence behind library: Discussion of appropriate style for fence, as the board will make this decision and the Selectboard/town will pay for the fence. Purpose is to prevent children from approaching/falling into ravine behind library.

Student assistant and substitute compensation rates: The board approved a student assistant rate of \$15/hour, and for adult substitutes the rate will be \$18/hour.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Next meeting will be on October 19, 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