

APPROVED

MINUTES

BARNET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 11/9/2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

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

Agenda:

No additions or deletions were made to tonight's agenda.

Minutes of the 10/19/23 meeting were approved.

Board Chair Report: None.

Treasurer's Report:

The actual town appropriation for the library is not yet on the 11/6/23 budget status report. Otherwise, the report was approved, with updates/changes pending as below.

There was extensive discussion of proposed changes to the appropriation request for 2024, mostly involving the need for increases in wages of librarian and other paid library workers, due to both increases in number of hours library will be open (see librarian's report) and needed cost of living increases.

Librarian's Report:

- Dylan worked with Ira Wolf, a new substitute, on cleaning and reorganizing the children's room, including doing a lot of bar coding. Dylan expressed appreciation for Ira's hard work.
- There is a lot of material to go to the dump. Please pick something up if you are going this Saturday.
- Dungeons & Dragons group will start after Thanksgiving on Sunday afternoons 2-4 with a teen facilitator/assistant. The Saturday teen assistant is working during regular 10-2 hours. The teen assistant program is an experiment, which is going well thus far.
- Dylan is working on the library report for the Town Meeting report.
- Proposed changes to library hours: Increase to a possible total of 27 hours.
 - o Tuesdays 10-5:30
 - o Wednesdays 10-5:30
 - o Thursdays 9-12, plus possibly 5-7 pm
 - o Saturdays 10-4
- Broad as well as focused discussion and calculations of potential increase in library appropriation request; see Treasurer's Report above.
- **Board unanimously passed a motion to make a 3% cost of living increase for the Library Director.**
- The board will go over the budget at the January meeting, make wage and any other line item adjustments, and vote for approval; Sue will then send that budget to the Town Clerk.

Art at the Library Update:

- The Cellar Holes program on 10/29 had 65 attendees and raised \$300 in donations, the sum of which caused us to break even.
- The 11/28 ornament felting class is full.
- The 12/12 wreathmaking workshop has 2 spaces left.
- Potential future program on weaving by a local artisan.

Old and Continuing Business:

Annual Appeal letter: Board members made a few changes to the draft letter and it was finalized. There are 67 names on the updated mailing list.

- Jackie will purchase #10 envelopes from Copies & More and Sue will print addresses on them.
- Copies & More will print the letters and remit envelopes.
- Letters will be assembled by board members on 11/30/23 at 6 pm and mailed the following day.

New(ish) to the NEK: Meet and greet event for younger folks in the Kingdom. This is being planned for January.

Mission Statement review: This will be done at the January board meeting.

Board calendar: This was reviewed and judged a useful tool by the board.

Mobile shelving: The board was alerted to similar but less expensive mobile shelving units in the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum children's room. Several board members have visited to see this shelving, talked to Athenaeum staff, and had positive impressions.

Jackie will work on obtaining a quote for this alternative choice of shelving prior to 11/30, which would allow the board to vote during our annual appeal letter meeting on 11/30 on whether to purchase this other mobile shelving for our children's room. This would require that we warn this extra meeting no less than 2 days before.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Next regular board meeting will be on January 11, 2024 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