

APPROVED MINUTES

BARNET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING – 9/12/2024

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

In attendance: Linda Cochran, 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 9/5/2024 and 8/8/2024 meetings were both approved.

Board Chair Report: None.

Treasurer's Report: No report from treasurer Sue Wood. Dylan noted that postage was high, as expected with increased number of ILL requests. Adult book costs were up, but children's book costs were down, in part due to the CLiF grant.

Librarian's Report:

- 1) Fall Foliage Day for Barnet is on Friday 10/4. Question was posed as to whether the library should do another book sale during that day, so soon after the Mile Long Yard sale, when many of our culled books either went to new owners or to recycling. Dylan felt she could collect enough books for a brief sale at Barnet's Fall Foliage Day.
- 2) VINS (Vermont Institute of Natural Science) Raptors program was very successful. 37 attendees, more adults than children. Cost of the program ran over the grant amount, so the balance will come from library events.
- 3) CLiF grant: A list has been sent in and new children's books ordered.
- 4) Home School Group has been meeting at the library from 9-11 on Tuesdays.
- 5) Barnet School Afternoon Bus Riders: This is children who ride the bus and get off at the library on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. Dylan has contacted St. Johnsbury Academy to look into hiring a student with a car to supervise this group.
- 6) Waffle Wednesdays: A poster has been prepared to publicize this activity via Friday folders at Barnet School. These are scheduled for one Wednesday per month.
- 7) Summer Reading grant: The theme for next summer will be "Color Our World."
- 8) Computer updates: Dylan took both computers to Newport to be upgraded. The librarian's computer will have a faster drive put in, and another computer will be put in the children's room for their use.
- 9) Public Library Directors' Summit: 10/29/24. Dylan has not yet decided whether she will go to this full-day conference; it may not be worth the time she will have to take for it. It depends on how many topics are relevant to our library.
- 10) Banned Book Week: Dylan presented a draft poster for this event. Extensive discussion by board regarding wording and design. Concern was expressed about maintaining the library's role in the community as a safe space for all patrons, regardless of religious, political or ethical points of view.
- 11) Donated child's quilt: Will set up a Valentine's Day raffle as a fundraiser.

Art at the Library Update:

Linda described her proposal for the coming year of programming. She would like to continue the traditional, seasonally-themed classes in the fall, and then would like to coordinate

programs with the library's monthly topics or themes. The board will plan to discuss spring programming at the January board meeting.

Monthly Tasks:

Data review: We looked at trends in interlibrary loan requests, circulation and patron flow. Data collected helps Dylan plan the budget. Some observations:

1. Use of technology has gone up. This includes copying, scanning, use of the wireless printer and computers, as well as patrons requesting help in using their own cell phones and computers. Dylan would like to plan on purchasing another printer (black-&-white) and more paper.
2. Story hour attendance has decreased over the past few years as families' schedules have shifted. Dylan is spending less time on prepping for story hour, and instead simply does story hour if anyone comes in wanting that.

Annual Appeal:

A draft of this fall's annual appeal letter was made available via Google Docs for board members to review and make additions, comments and edits.

New Business:

Donation to West Barnet fire district: This is intended as a "Thank you" for help facilitating the library's participation in the Mile-Long Yard Sale last month. A motion was made and passed to donate \$50 to the West Barnet fire district.

Old/Continuing Business:

The fence behind the library has been replaced by a handsome new fence! This will make the library grounds safer, particularly for children playing.

Executive Session:

A motion was made and seconded to enter executive session for a personnel review (library director).

A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm

Next meeting will be on October 10th 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