

APPROVED

BARNET PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 10/10/2024

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 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 9/12/24 meeting were approved.

Board Chair Report: None.

Treasurer's Report:

No comments by the treasurer. Dylan reported an unexpected \$3500 donation, a repeat from an identical donation last year. This will appear on December's budget.

STAFFING:

Dylan has been in touch with St. J Academy in hopes of replacing the teens who worked at the library on Saturdays this past year; there have been no responses yet.

Library assistant: Ira Wolf has been working as a paid substitute for some time now. Dylan expressed her satisfaction with both his performance and his potential for the assistant role. She believes he is an excellent fit – he has shown good initiative, the ability to work independently and thoughtfulness in bringing new ideas to the library. Dylan felt that Ira “is the next thing the library needs.” Ira has made clear that he likes working at the Barnet Public Library, and patrons have also liked him and have come to look for and expect him.

Dylan and Ira have discussed possible hours he might work. If he worked 7 hours per week at \$18/hour he would earn \$1,260 if he were hired for the remaining 10 weeks of 2024 (this fiscal year); this is within our current staffing budget, and could serve as a trial period. He would be interested in working part of his time on Sundays, such as from 1-4 pm. Dylan is also hoping he might take on one evening per week, which she has been wanting to offer for some time.

There was extensive discussion among board members about various scenarios for the assistant librarian position. It was agreed that moving forward with filling this position should include: (1) posting the assistant librarian position again; (2) interviewing Ira and other qualified candidates formally; (3) holding a separate board meeting from the primary meeting scheduled for 11/14 to work on the 2025 budget, to include an assistant librarian.

The October budget was approved without change.

Librarian's Report:

1. CLiF books: The books have mostly arrived. CLiF will be making 3 grade-divided presentations at the Barnet school on 12/6. After that date the books may be loaned out.
2. Meet the Breeds: This presentation by Littleton Animal Hospital staff will be about dog breeds. It will be on Saturday October 12th at 11:00.

3. Trunk or Treat: This will be held at the Barnet School on Halloween, 10/31 from 5-7 pm in the circular drive in front of the school. So far just 6 trunks have signed up, but people usually call to register in the week prior. Dylan is hoping to have at least 22 trunks at the event.
4. Film – Bess O'Brien's documentary "Just Getting By." Screening will be on 11/21 at 7 p.m. Cost to the library will be \$150.
5. Waffle Wednesdays: There has already been one of these cooking events; the next will be Wednesday October 16. Allison Vernon helped with the first WW and will also assist with the upcoming one.
6. Planned purchase of modular couch for the children's room. This child-sized couch can be reconfigured in various ways, including as a tent or a cave... fun! The couch costs approximately \$250.

Art at the Library Update:

November 7: Pop-up cards for Thanksgiving and more, Rebecca Boardman.

December 4th: Wreath-making class, Annette Hyder.

January 15th: Felting class for Valentine's Day, Sherry Colby-Schenk.

Spring classes in planning stages with potential presenters:

Susan Chandler, new library next-door neighbor.

Kathleen Monroe, author of book about Barnet.

Monthly Tasks:

Annual Appeal: Letter text was finalized with a few minor grammatical edits made. Board members to submit possible photos to Jackie (2-3 to go into letter), and then Jackie will move forward to printer's after the whole letter is complete.

New Business:

Edward Jones – Annual review of investment plan. Jackie will simply call our representative to tell him the board wants to continue the plan as is for now, no in-person meeting needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Next meeting will be on November 14th 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