

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BERKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY MINUTES

May 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were Chairperson Carla Ross-Lyman, Trustee Megan Silva, Library Director Carol Buote, Friends of the Library President Danielle Nicolet and Secretary Linda Andrade Rodrigues. Trustee Paula Dugan was absent. The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2023 was read and approved. Megan Silva motioned, Carla Ross-Lyman seconded. All voted in favor.

VOTE: Carla Ross-Lyman AYE

 Megan Silva AYE

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN REPORT

Erica Grady submitted a report from April 11, 2023 to May 9, 2023. There were approximately 243 visitors to the Children's Room this month. They held two Story Times with 15 attendees and read stories and created crafts about bees and shapes. A newsletter went out May 1 reaching 103 people. Marketing continues to be created across all social media platforms, the library website, the town's website and print materials placed throughout the library for upcoming programs and events. LEGO Night had 6 attendees, Craft Night had 12 participants and Pokemon had 17 attendees. Big Ryan's Tall Tales was held April 11 at the COA with 38 attendees and gifts given from PACE. They also held 4 VolunTEENS programs with 12 attendees. The Writing Circle with Jess for ages 12+ is going well with 12 attendees. They will be holding this every other week and giving the attendees writing prompts. An author visit is planned for their June 6 meeting. The Old Colony History Museum program had 12 happy attendees for the berry ink and butter program. Earth Day activities had 21 attendees, and they enjoyed

outdoor games. The SAILS Ultimate Road Trip brought 22 new patrons to visit the library and enjoy bee-related activities. March statistics show 1,324 juvenile and 68 young adult items circulated, and April statistics show 943 juvenile items and 73 young adult items circulated.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Book Club met on May 4 with 7 attendees and discussed *The Matrix* by Lauren Groff for the May meeting, and for the June meeting, they are reading *Love and Other Consolation Prizes* by Jamie Ford. For poetry month, they had a "Blackout Poetry" display with some patron participation. For May they have a "YA is for Everyone" display. The Not Just Knitting groups met in April with 11 attendees. Amy McNamara taught her Crochet for Beginners class for teens and adults on April 13, and it was very well attended. The next class is scheduled for May 24. She plans to teach an intermediate class next. Virtual Trivia was held on April 15 with 19 attendees. Danielle Nicolet is teaching a Cricut Introduction class on May 25. They held the SAILS Ultimate Library Road Trip from April 18 through 29 with activities, crafts and prizes planned for both the Adult and Children's rooms. They had 20 attendees with some interest in the activities and crafts, but some of the visitors just wanted to get their map stamped. For the SAILS network, Carol Buote attended their meeting on April 12. This past week Kathy Lussier, the SAILS' executive director, gave her notice. Carol Buote is on the Director Search Committee to help hire an executive director. The library needs a new vendor for their print magazine subscriptions because Amazon is no longer selling them. Carol Buote is working with W.T. Cox to get them set up. In addition, the Berkley scouts used the library this past month for a Board of Review and a Committee meeting, and they will also use it again in May for a Board of Review meeting. Scouts interview for rank advancement at a Board of Review.

FRIENDS' REPORT

The Friends of the Library recently renewed their event insurance policy and signed up for the Spring MFOL Conference, which will be held on Saturday, June 10 at the Woburn Public Library. On Sunday, May 7 the Friends repainted the lines of the library parking lot, which came out great. Their new library card-themed

mugs are in, and President Danielle Nicolet says they are super cute and 14 ounces for only \$10. They are also excited to announce that their fundraiser with Doughlicious Pizza on May 16 from 4 to 8 p.m. When you place your order, just mention it is for the Berkley Public Library; and 15 percent of the proceeds from your meals will benefit the library. A night off from cooking will do some good for the library at the same time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

For the FY24 budget, Carol Buote watched the Finance Committee meetings and saw that they recommended a \$600 cut to the library's materials budget, which will result in a total budget of \$158,293. Consequently, she said this is plenty to make their Municipal Budget requirement. Taking into account what the Friends usually pay for and what part of their SAILS assessment will be for materials, they will probably need approximately \$3,000 more for materials to stay certified. If salaries are increased, then they will need more. Also, with the increasing use of Libby and Hoopla, they will need to spend more money in those areas. She added that this seems like something they can handle, so basically, this is a heads up on what she will work on in FY24.

NEW BUSINESS

A letter was drafted to inform Town Clerk Heather Almy that during the regularly scheduled meeting, the Board was reorganized; and Carla Ross-Lyman is still the Board Chairperson.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

The Letter of Intent was submitted for the Construction Grant. They will need to register for the application workshop and review the items included in the May 1 email from the MBLC.

PUBLIC INPUT

Richard Buote presented to the Board his Eagle Scout Project proposal on Virtual Reality to benefit both young and adults, seventh-graders and up. He would like to teach groups of 10 to 15 interested patrons on how to use the headset

equipment. Explaining this new technology, he said that Virtual Reality is just like you are actually there.

Megan Silva motioned to approve the Eagle Scout project on Virtual Reality, and Carla Ross-Lyman seconded. All voted in favor.

VOTE: Carla Ross-Lyman AYE

Megan Silva AYE

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURN

Megan Silva made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m., and Carla Ross-Lyman seconded. All votes in favor.

VOTE: Carla Ross-Lyman AYE

Megan Silva AYE

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Andrade Rodrigues

