

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BERKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY MINUTES

March 14, 2023

The meeting via Zoom was called to order at 7:05 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, April 11, 2023.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2023 was read and approved as amended. 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 February 13, 2023 through March 14, 2023. There were approximately 217 visitors to the Children's Room this month. Two Story Times were held with 22 attendees. They read stories and created crafts about love and heart art and snakes. A newsletter went out March 1 reaching 98 people. Marketing continues to be created across all social media platforms, the library's website, the town's website and print materials placed throughout the library for upcoming programs and events. Their PACE Care Works Play & Learn program had 16 attendees. Erica Grady has become part of a Freetown Lakeville Berkley advisory group with Tammy and her colleagues and other members of the communities to help educate patrons and bring awareness to their free services. This group meets quarterly as a brainstorming session. The Youth Craft Night had 10 attendees, and they are developing their bracelet making skills with other crafts offered. The Pokemon Trading Card Club had 26 attendees this month, which is popular and a lot of fun! The participants traded cards, battled and

played Pokemon Bingo. New patrons from Freetown visited. To develop 3D printing skills, the library will be holding small group sessions. This is less of a class and more about troubleshooting and learning the programs. Winter Reading Bingo ended February 14. They had 45 participants with Beanstack, and this program was lightly attended so Erica Grady will be making adjustments for next year. Thanks to the generosity of Bristol Wealth Group, they continue to add many new books into the collection. They held 2 VolunTEENS programs with 25 attendees, and they have connected with Jess, a community member, who will help them kick-off a writing program.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Book Club met on March 2 with 7 attendees and discussed *"Where'd You Go, Bernadette"* by Maria Semple. For the April meeting, they will read *"The Lost Apothecary"* by Sarah Penner. The Not Just Knitting groups met in February with 10 attendees. Amy Mursko's Adult Reading Bingo program ended on February 14 and had 13 participants. The raffle prize was awarded. Amy McNamara ran a "Blind Date with a Book" program, and there were 14 participants. Carol Buote and the library staff filled out lengthy Position Questionnaires as part of the town salary review. She attended a SAILS Board meeting on February 15, an ALA 1st Amendment Audit webinar on February 16, a MIIA Diversity Awareness webinar on February 23 and a Consumer Debt webinar on March 9. In addition she attended a Town Department Head meeting on March 8. As a result of that meeting, she created a Library Department Office Equipment list for the Town Administrator. Finishing the FY24 budget, she presented it to the Berkley Finance Committee on February 27. The library staff continues to do social media posts, website posts, newsletters and an article for the COA newsletter. Their website had 426 visitors in February which is a high for them. They have 484 Facebook followers and 619 Instagram followers. Their March newsletter for adults went out to 73 people. Carol Buote is in the process of replacing the left public desktop PC and monitor. It has been freezing and hanging up on a regular basis. They had a snow day on February 28. Bills are now due on Mondays and can be turned in weekly or every other week.

FRIENDS' REPORT

Danielle Nicolet presented the Friends of the Library Report. The Friends had a quiet month of February in terms of events, but there was a lot going on behind the scenes. They recently switched banks so that they can earn more interest on the funds they have raised. Updating their membership levels, they have new categories and rates. While this will eliminate the lifetime category, anyone who has a lifetime membership to the Friends will still be considered a lifetime Friend. Now is the perfect time to join them.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Carol Buote attended a Construction Grant Amplifund Letter of Intent training, and she helped prepare a letter for the Selectmen's meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

To date, the library has received \$750 in donations, as well as notes, from patrons in honor of the late June Moskal. Carol Buote suggested that in her memory they purchase books and put a bookplate in the front. Carla Ross-Lyman said that June, a former Trustee, is remembered as a teacher who loved kids.

ADJOURN

Megan Silva made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. and Carla Ross-Lyman seconded. All voted in favor.

VOTE: Carla Ross-Lyman AYE

Megan Silva AYE

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Andrade Rodrigues