

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BERKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY MINUTES

April 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. In attendance were Chairperson Carla Ross-Lyman, Trustee Megan Silva, Library Director Carol Buote, Friends of the Library Director Danielle Nicolet and Secretary Linda Andrade Rodrigues. Trustee Paula Dugan was absent. The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Meeting Minutes of March 14, 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 March 14, 2023 through April 11, 2023. There were approximately 232 visitors to the Children's Room this month. Four Story Times were held with 34 attendees. They read stories and created crafts about Leprechauns, tulips, bees and shapes. A newsletter went out April 1 reaching 106 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. LEGO Night had 31 attendees; Craft Night, 17 participants; and Pokemon, 17 attendees. Their PACE Care Works Play & Learn program was not held this month, and instead PACE had a special Story Time on April 11 with Big Ryan's Tall Tales at the COA. Students continue to develop their 3D printing skills, and small group sessions will be offered on request. They also held 4 VolunTEENS programs with 23 attendees. In addition, they had their first Writing Circle with Jess for ages 12+. They will be holding this every other week and giving the attendees writing prompts. An author visit is planned for June 6.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Book Club met on April 6 with 8 attendees and discussed *The Loss Apothecary* by Sarah Penner for the April meeting, and for the May meeting they are reading *Matrix* by Lauren Groff. The Not Just Knitting Groups met in March with 8 attendees. Virtual Trivia was held on March 18 with 16 participants. For poetry month, Amy McNamara and Amy Mursko put together a blackout poetry display with some poetry books and are encouraging patrons to participate. Amy McNamara is also offering a Crochet for Beginners class for teens and adults. The class is full, and she has a wait list for a second class. The staff is preparing for the SAILS Ultimate Library Trip that will occur April 18 through 29. They have activities, crafts and prizes planned for both the Adult and Children's Rooms. Carole Buote attended a Dynamic Shelving webinar, a Civility in the Workplace webinar, and a SAILS bridge meeting. SAILS will be upgrading the workflows software that they use for all circulation and cataloguing tasks. The library will use some bridge software to perform circulation work during the upgrade, but will not be able to catalog during that time. Either their social media posts or just increased patron interest has given them their highest bills for Hoopla the past two months. Usage of Hoopla in FY22 was 1,583 patrons and for FY23, 1,886 – a 19 percent increase. Overdrive/Libby was 4,040 patrons for FY22, and 5,078 for FY23 – a 26 percent increase. For Hoopla, patrons are limited to 8 items a month. Hoopla costs increase as they get more patrons using it and more patrons using all 8 borrows. For Overdrive/Libby items, they go to Berkley patrons first. Finally, the Berkley Scouts used the library for a recent Board of Review Meeting.

FRIENDS' REPORT

Danielle Nicolet presented the Friends of the Library Report. The Friends had another quiet month in March, but they worked to finalize their schedule of events for the year. They are excited that "Touch A Truck" will be coming back this summer and events they have never done before. They also worked to design some new mugs and a fun updated design. Now is the perfect time to join them. They welcome new perspectives and ideas.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

As the third quarter has ended, Carol Buote produced a report of the status of the library budget for the Trustees review.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Regarding the Construction Grant, Carla Ross-Lyman and Carol Buote are currently working on the Letter of Intent.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURN

Megan Silva made a motion to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. and Carla Ross-Lyman seconded. All voted in favor.

VOTE: Carla Ross-Lyman AYE

 Megan Silva AYE

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Andrade Rodrigues