

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BERKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY MINUTES

September 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. In attendance were Chairperson Carla Ross-Lyman, Trustee Paula Dugan, Trustee Megan Silva, Library Director Carol Buote, and Friends President Danielle Nicolet. The next meeting date was set for Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2021 were read and approved as amended.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

StoryWalk featured *Thank You, Omu!* By Oge Mora. A new story will be installed for September.

The Summer Reading program ended on August 7th. Raffle drawings were held August 17th for independent readers (6-17) and early literacy readers earned a prize pack consisting of a book, summer reading themed bookmark, notepad, and pencil, and summer reading materials from the Bruins. A total of Seventy-Three (73) participants this year.

The collaborative Passport Program with Somerset, Swansea, Dighton, and Rehoboth went well. A total of Thirty-Two (32) participants visited the library to collect passport stickers. 3D moveable piranhas were given out as prizes to those who completed their passport in Berkley.

Summer reading statistics have been submitted to MLS.

The Children's Room continues to have families visit with masks and hand washing/sanitizing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carol Buote submitted and read a report for the past month.

The Book Club was held on September 2nd with 10 attendees and featured *The Woman in the Window* by A.J. Fin. October will feature *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See. A combination of in-person and virtual will continue.

Collaborative events: On September 11th Virtual Trivia was held with Twenty-Six (26) attendees. The next Virtual Trivia will be on October 23rd. The Read-a-thon with the Friends will be held on October 2nd.

Summer Reading was wrapped up with prizes and raffles.

Alarm System- just waiting on the panic buttons for final completion.

Five Free Hotspots are available to lend out. There has been some interest, but need to continue to promote them.

Erica is working with the Berkley Middle School on a Library Card signup program.

An application has been sent home with students.

Community relations efforts include continued newsletters and posts.

E-magazine was averaging 2.5 per month, since the posts it is now averaging 50 e-magazine circulations per month. Patrons are regularly coming in to get a book that was promoted on social media. TikTok is being tried out, but may not do much with that app.

Bristol Wealth Proposal was sent to Dean. Waiting to meet.

2022 Massachusetts Financial report was completed. Will review tonight.

Current COVID Restrictions: 1 hour time limit, small indoor adult programs, all children's programs outdoors, masks for all employees while patrons are on their floor, & Children's Room: masks required for everyone and 1 family at a time.

FRIEND'S REPORT

The Flamingo Flocking Event has been completed.

The Book Sale on September 11, 2021 promoted some new members. All the new faces and the sharing of new ideas has been great. If anyone is curious about the Friend's please stop into the library or email at [**friendsoftheberklevlibrary@gmail.com**](mailto:friendsoftheberklevlibrary@gmail.com).

Read-A-Thon- October 2nd from 10:00am-2:00pm. Anyone can participate from home, at the library, or their favorite reading spot. The sponsor sheet can be picked up at the library or register on the library's website. For every \$10.00 raised, the participant can be entered into a drawing for a book light, library tote bag, or an Amazon gift card.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Carol Buote submitted the SAILS Year Report to the Trustees.

Financial Report was reviewed and discussed by the Board.

Materials Budget- Carol Buote explained and discussed with the Board.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE

Chairman Ross-Lyman discussed with the Board about starting things with the building project. Need to start with getting the information on the possible funding from the 1995 account. Also need to speak with the Selectmen about resolving the issue with the common use. She would like the Board to give some input on moving forward with building a new library. As far as Federal Grants there is no information as of yet. Berkley is not on the waiting list, maybe do a study now to make a decision on how to go forward for a new library. She made a note that

there was a mistake in the Summer Reading packet about the grant money. The land situation for the library needs to be clarified. Another question was, what to do with the original building? There are many options. It was suggested by the Trustee members that fundraising and campaigning for a new building should be continued along with public input about a new building. The Chairman asked if the building should be evaluated now along with clarification of the land because you never know when the money appears from State funding for construction. Is it too early to discuss with the Board of Selectmen about a new library? The Trustees all felt Public Campaigning is the 1st thing. Some ideas were to have a Poetry Walk at Dighton Rock and hand out surveys about a new library at the Town Meeting. The Board discussed some questions that came up at the September 11th Event. People asked about the library teaching computer classes and when the children's programs will be back, further discussed maybe putting a tent up outside for this.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURN

A motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn at 8:10 PM.

VOTE:	Carla Ross-Lyman	AYE
	Paula Dugan	AYE
	Megan Silva	AYE

The next meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

October 12, 2021

November 9, 2021

December 14, 2021

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather J. Almy, Secretary