



Diane Giarrusso, Library Director

Board of Library Trustees

Meeting: February 14, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Tewksbury Public Library (Local History Room)

Members Present: Sue Pedersen, Patrick Joyce, Bonnie Page, Lori Carriere, Julie Naughton, Chris Castiglione

Also Present: Diane Giarrusso, Nicole Goolishian, Jeannine Briley, Emily Leggat

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Patrick Joyce

Minutes:

The minutes from the 1/10/23 meeting was reviewed with no comment. Lori Carriere moved to accept the minutes as written; Sue Pedersen seconded. The motion passed.

Director's Comments:

- The sprinkler company came to look at the head and evaluate the system. The only damage was to the sprinkler head, which they will replace. The ceiling just needs to be painted.
- The Director met with the Finance Committee about the proposed FY24 budget in late January. The budget is a level service budget as it has normally been and this year they are not funding any of the large priorities. The meeting was productive and the members did not have any concerns for the library budget.
- Joe Fiumara will be out from March 6th till April 28th, he is having his hip replaced. Dave Does Windows is helping out with the custodial work. We have help for the election set up.
- It is "Love Your Library" month, and we're celebrating with the Friends! The Friends have a table so visitors can write what they love about the library and post them around the first floor.
- The library is co-sponsoring a Black History Month film series with the Tewksbury Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee this month.

- The Director proposed transferring responsibility for the payment of Museum Passes from the Friends and to the Library. We will transition throughout this calendar year. Along with the museum passes we are also taking over administering the TPL Community Garden funds. We are getting that accomplished very soon.

Report of Meeting on the Friends of the Library:

- The February meeting was a fairly short meeting. They were told about Lori and Patrick not running for trustees.
- They discussed the book & puzzle swap donation on the 18th this Saturday from 9am to 1pm.
- The tote bag was tabled for 6 months.
- It's membership drive month.
- They are doing a 20/24-month calendar. There is a sub committee and getting them printed at Shawsheen Tech and have the community post pictures and have them chosen and made into this calendar.
- The Fundraiser at Vic's Waffle House on Monday March 20th from 4pm to 7pm and tickets are not required, but you can buy them ahead of time. You can do take out too.
- They have things that are in the works but not fully planned yet. They have a beer tasting and maybe a walk/run fundraiser. A wine tasting in November, and a night with a medium.

Emily Leggat, Teen Librarian, Presentation:

The teen department and teen room is for tweens and teens in grade 6 to 12. We want teens to feel comfortable in their space and to thrive. Teen goals are serving the community as more of a community center than a study only space. We are a safe space for people to hang out and be themselves. We want to be a place teen can study, but also have fun, learn boundaries and discover who they are as people.

Katie Jennings is part of the teen staff and creates displays, is a manga expert and makes our event calendars and flyers. Kate also does our social media, booklists and runs 2 programs a month. I myself run 6 teen events a month, I also plan and decide what we're doing for the summer. I am in charge of outreach along with bringing the community to us. We started a welcome night for teens in grades 6 to 8 this year and it was a great success.

My goal is to break the stereotypes of libraries to those who may not feel comfortable coming into the building yet. I am also responsible for collection development for teens. I purchase board games, books, movies, audio books, and magazines. I also manage the teen volunteer program.

For three years, I was the chair of the MVLC Teen RoundTable and I attend MLA and NELA events as part of my professional development. I received my master's degree from Kent State University; my favorite classes were on accessibility in libraries and teen services. I try to make sure I am always learning and not just teen-specific topics.

The Board thanked Emily for her presentation and were very impressed by it.

Member's Comments:

Julie Naughton told the Director that she can never leave the Library!

Sue Pedersen, regarding the Board being one of only a few who aren't given a stipend, asked about getting the Trustees on the Town Meeting Warrant.

Sue also asked if we had any legal issues about people using the meeting room. The Director said no not yet, but she took that opportunity to say that in March you will be seeing a revised Meeting Room policy and a Programming Policy, both a result of some new training about legal considerations about collections and the meeting room.

Chris Castiglione will attend the Friends Meeting in March.

The Director requested feedback from the Board so that she can prepare useful board development information for the future.

Public Comments:

None

Future Meetings:

March 14, 2023

April 11, 2023 Reorganization Meeting

May 9, 2023

Adjourn:

Lori Carriere moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. and seconded by Bonnie Page. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved BLT Minutes from 2/14/2023 by The Trustees on 3/21/2023

Handouts: Monthly Calendars and the Director's Report 2/14/23