



Bethel Public Library

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Meeting Minutes
BPL Board of Directors
Virtual Meeting
Monday 02/22/2021 at 6:00 pm

PRESENT: Chairman Mary O'Leary, Tia Murphy, Judith Schlemmer, Robin Kahn, Connie Kauffman, Linda Curtis, Robin Grubard, Terri Rotella, Sue Morton, Mary Spain, Chris Sell: FOL Chair Jan Patzold, and Library Director Megan Dean.

ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE: Ted Stevenson

Call to order: Chair Mary O'Leary called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF January 25,2021 MEETING MINUTES: Chair Mary O'Leary asked if the members had read the minutes, and if there were any questions; none. Chair Mary O'Leary asked for a motion to approve the January 25 meeting minutes. Terri Rotella moved to approve the January 25,2021 minutes. Judy Schlemmer seconded the motion. All others in favor; motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER REPORTS: Treasurer Murphy asked if the members read the Treasurer Report. She corrected a heading mistake naming the incorrect month and her incorrect name on the report. She will correct both. She asked if any member had a question. No questions, so Treasurer Murphy asked for a motion to approve. Connie Kauffman made the motion; Linda Curtis seconded. All in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

FRIENDS OF THE BETHEL PUBLIC LIBRARY: FOL Chair Jan Patzold reported there are only 4 members on the Executive Board. They would love to encourage more to get involved especially with Publicity.

LBOD Chairman's Report: Chair O'Leary reported that the budget was presented to the combined Board of Finance and Selectmen Meeting via zoom. It included a power point presentation and was favorably received. She thanked all who helped with the presentation and those that virtually attended the meeting. Chair O'Leary then presented the Committee assignments for the year to the members. Asking if there were questions the assignments were accepted by all. Tia Murphy made a motion to suspend the scholarship for the 2020-2021 school. Susan Morton seconded. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR UPDATE: Library Director Megan Dean began by asking the Board if they had any questions regarding the monthly spending budget or any of the use statistics. Director Dean reported that the Jumbo

ad will be loaned to the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum in March. The summer project to upgrade the Wi-Fi in and outside of the building is complete and can support more users. Donations have been made to the library in memory of Dr. Volpintesta. Programming is up and running for both the Children and Adult services. Early literacy programming needs some marketing to bring that participation up to pre COVID -19 levels.

Director Dean reported that AARP Tax Aide has solidified plans for conducting 2020 tax year filing assistance at the Library on Wednesdays. It will be a drop off and call back to pick up process in the Seely house. The Library has a waiting list that will be called to set up appointments for patrons.

Director Dean reported that a Library Assistant has resigned, and the Circulation Supervisor has returned to their previous position. Priority will be given to filling the Circulation Position reaching out to candidates that have already applied then filling the library assistant position.

Friendship Bench Proposal: Director Dean reported that she and Amy Daveport met with resident Deb Clelland to discuss installation on Bethel Library property. A motion was made by Robin Kahn to accept the gift of the bench upon determination of location of the bench. Second Terri Rotella. Discussion. Motion was made by Robin Kahn to table the previous motion until the April Meeting. Mary Spain seconded. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

FOL Chair Jan Patzold left meeting at 7:11 pm

SELECT PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Motion to go into Executive session Connie Kauffman. Seconded Judith Schlemmer. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to come out of Executive session 7:24 pm made by Tia Murphy second Robin Grubard. Robin Kahn made a motion that the Library Director has the authority to close the library up to 72 hours if an employee tests positive for the Covid -19 virus. Second Terri Rotella. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Chair O'Leary asked for a motion to adjourn. Terri Rotella moved to adjourn; Connie Kaufman seconded. All in favor, motion passed unanimously. Chair O'Leary adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Morton
Secretary