



Acton Public Library
60 Old Boston Post Road
Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Attendance - Members present: Amanda Brouwer (Library Director), Nancy Walsh, (Board Chairperson), Alan Schwarz (Vice Chairperson), Nathan Wise (Treasurer), Susan Mariani (Corresponding Secretary), Michael Cameron, Mary Delmonico, Susan Hitchcock Missel, MaryAnn Iadarola, and Ann Derouaux-Welch. Absent (*notified, **did not notify): none. Others: Mandy Merritt (Board Recorder).

1. **Call to Order** - Chairperson Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. A motion was made by Susan Hitchcock to add the annual election of officers to the agenda and was seconded by MaryAnn Iadarola. All were in favor. The officer nominations for the two year term, January 11 2022 - January 11, 2024 are as follows:

Chair, Nancy Walsh
Vice Chair, Alan Schwarz
Corresponding Secretary, Susan Mariani
Treasurer, Nathan Wise

A motion to accept the slate as presented was made by Susan Hitchcock and seconded by MaryAnn Iadarola. All were in favor.

3. **Approval of Minutes** - The meeting minutes of December 14, 2021 were reviewed. A motion was made by Alan Schwarz and seconded by Mary Delmonico to approve the minutes. All were in favor.
4. **Public Comment** - None
5. **Acceptance of Financial Report** - Director Brouwer is comfortable with the current energy spend, no additional repairs were required this month, and no concerns regarding the budget. Susan asked for clarification of the Consortium system. Amanda commented on the importance of this relationship and provided an overview of what is included in the resource sharing among libraries in the consortium. Several board members asked follow up questions for additional details about the consortium. A motion was made by Ann Derouaux-Welch and seconded by Susan Mariani to approve the Financial Report as presented. All were in favor.
6. **Acceptance of Non-Town Fund Report** - Director Brouwer provided an update on Ria, the new Administrative Assistant. A motion was made by Mary Delmonico and seconded by Susan Hitchcock to accept the Non-Town Fund Report as presented. All were in favor.

7. **Acceptance of Statistics Report** - Director Brouwer mentioned the increase in use of the physical collection and a decrease in digital collection borrowing, tech times have been highly utilized, the computers are used constantly throughout the day. Programs are being offered in-person but now also starting to offer programs on Zoom again. A motion was made by MaryAnn Iadarola and seconded by Ann Derouaux-Welch to approve the Statistics Report as presented. A discussion ensued with a question from Susan Hitchcock, asking for a comparison of participation numbers for current library events versus event participation at events prior to the pandemic. With acceptance of that request, a vote was taken on the motion to approve the Statistics Reports. All were in favor.
8. **Correspondences** - Patrons have been submitting comments about how the library has been beneficial to them. Discussion regarding the budget presentation and the ability to represent the non-revenue generating benefits that the library offers the community.
9. **Library Director's Report** - Director Brouwer began her report with insights about Sunday library operations including staffing and in-person visitors. Amanda mentioned the retirement of Wayne and the efforts underway to fill that position and the Assistant position. The physical building is not presenting any issues at this time. Amanda highlighted the variety of programs being offered and she mentioned that future programs are being developed to align with the library's overall goals. Susan Mariani brought an administrative inconsistency to Amanda's attention. An update on the activities of the Architectural Feasibility Study Subcommittee was mentioned. The Logo and Branding Subcommittee and Policy Subcommittee did not meet this past month. The children's '12 Days of Books' program was popular. Chess will be offered online and in-person. The Take your Child to the Library event will offer several in-library activities. Take-home crafts are still popular, Young Adult programs are thriving and summer reading plans are being discussed with the school.
10. **Friend's Report** - Nathan informed the Board that the next Friend's Report will be in February.
11. **Old Business**
 - A. Logo & Branding Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled.
12. **New Business** - none
13. **Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sue Mariani and seconded by Alan Schwarz. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mandy Merritt, *Board Recorder*