



ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
60 Old Boston Post Road Old Saybrook, CT 06475 (860)395-3184
Acton Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.
60 Old Boston Post Road
Main 2nd Floor Conference Room

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson N. Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: N. Walsh (Chairperson), S. Mariani, (Corresponding Secretary), M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz

Members absent: N. Wise

Staff: A. Brouwer (Library Director), J. Galli (Board Clerk)

In attendance: N. Prescott and E. Miller, Co-Presidents of Friends

Chairman N. Walsh would like to add item 11. NEW BUSINESS B. Participation of the APLB in the Saturday December 9th Torchlight Parade/ Discussion and Vote

MOTION to approve the addition of item 11. **NEW BUSINESS B. Participation of the APLB in the Saturday December 9th Torchlight Parade/Discussion and Vote** to the Agenda as presented **MADE:** S. Mariani **SECONDED:** M. Delmonico **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **MOTION APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the **Meeting Minutes** of September 12, 2023 as presented **MADE:** A. Schwarz **SECONDED:** M.A. Iadarola **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **MOTION APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

4. ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Brouwer reviewed the budget stating that there were no unexpected expenses in September, only quarterly licensing and membership fees.

MOTION to accept the **Financial Report** as presented **MADE:** A. Derouaux-Welch **SECONDED:** M.A. Iadarola **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **MOTION APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF NON-TOWN FUND REPORT

The library received a \$4,000 grant from Traveling Toys and the Community Foundation of Middlesex County for toy lending. The Renovations Donations fund has a balance of \$36,706.

MOTION to accept the **Non-Town Fund Report** as presented **MADE:** M. Delmonico **SECONDED:** S. Mariani **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **MOTION APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF STATISTICS REPORT

A. Brouwer reported that the library has been busy overall, with 5,618 visitors in September. Materials are circulating well, up from last year. The weeding of 628 materials is making the library more orderly. Some collection discards are distributed through the VA, Gladeview and Saye Brooke Village. The library is now collecting Wi-Fi statistics with 2,594 users in September.

MOTION to accept the **Statistics Report** as presented **MADE:** M.A. Iadarola **SECONDED:** A. Schwarz **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **MOTION APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

7. CORRESPONDENCES – None.

8. LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The library is currently advertising for the 20-hour Library Assistant position, and will be accepting applications until the position is filled. All of the supporting documents for the State Construction Grant have been submitted. The book bin near the dumpsters is for the deaccessioned items that will get recycled; Friends cannot sell these books. If you would like to donate books, please continue to bring them inside. The Building Subcommittee met with the Tucker Fund to discuss the overall plan for the renovation project. The Renovation Communications Subcommittee met to brainstorm ideas for a brochure. The Board of Finance is interested in hearing more about the renovation, so A. Brouwer will attend their meeting on the 17th Of October.

The children’s library had 20 programs with 642 participants. Kathy Cobb, the leader of Grub Club made a connection with Big Y who provided exotic fruits for the young chefs to try. Upcoming events include pumpkin painting, a costume party, Boo Bash, smores and movie day. For young adults there will be a Halloween party with a CLUE game theme. Painting fairy doors

and mythological shapes for the YA area will be back this fall. Inquire with Brian if you'd like to select and paint one.

During the month of September, 28 adult programs were offered with 256 attending. The watercolor class presented by the Florence Griswold Museum had 30 attendees. Thanks to the Friends of the Library, the Museum will be teaching a class quarterly. The next class, on Tues. Jan. 16, will be Tonalism vs. Impressionism with a landscape painting project using both. Then in March we will be making Fairy Houses. Another popular program in Sept. was Downsizing & Decluttering with 26 attending.

Coming up:

- On October 30th a History of Halloween will be presented by Sydney Sherman.
- Amelia Earhart: Pioneer in Aviation will be presented on November 14th by Sheryl Faye. Sheryl portrayed Anne Frank in January 2023.

9. FRIEND'S REPORT

The Friends will meet October 18th at 11 A.M. following the volunteer breakfast. The next book sale will be the weekend before Thanksgiving on Friday and Saturday in the Tile Gallery.

10. OLD BUSINESS

A. APL Manual Review

A. Brouwer went through each edit to the manual. Important additions included: if an Old Saybrook resident would like to serve on the Board of Trustees, they should express their interest in writing to the First Selectman; a request for reconsideration of materials must be made using the Request for Reconsideration of Materials form; volunteers will be responsible for logging their own hours; the Library Director or designee will proctor a printed or online examination by appointment during regular hours of operation.

<p>MOTION to accept the APL Manual with amendments as presented MADE: A. Derouaux-Welch SECONDED: S. Mariani VOTING IN FAVOR: N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz OPPOSED: None ABSTAINING: None MOTION APPROVED: 8-0-0.</p>
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11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Interest rates report from N. Wise

Due to his absence this evening, N. Walsh read Nathan's email into the record:

“I met with LeeAnn Paladino, Town Business Manager, on Oct 3, and she said that yes, the Board may invest Non-Town Funds in a Money Market Account, and short-term CDs; she recommended Webster Bank, as the Town currently invests its funds there, with a special rate of over 5%, and that as the Library is a department of the Town, we should be likewise eligible for that rate.”

A. Brouwer also met with L. Palladino. The library can invest separately, by line items for accounting purposes. The Scoville and Renovation funds will go into interest bearing accounts without penalty for withdrawal. The town will administer the account but interest will go to the library.

MOTION to invest Scoville and Renovation funds into interest bearing accounts through the town of Old Saybrook as presented MADE: M. Delmonico SECONDED: A. Derouaux-Welch VOTING IN FAVOR: N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz OPPOSED: None ABSTAINING: None MOTION APPROVED: 8-0-0.

B. Participation of the APLB in the Saturday December 9th Torchlight Parade/ Discussion and Vote

The Board discussed participating in the Torchlight parade with a float. They also discussed float ideas.

MOTION for the Library Board to participate in the Torchlight Parade on December 9th with float theme to be determined as presented MADE: N. Walsh SECONDED: M.A. Iadarola VOTING IN FAVOR: N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz OPPOSED: None ABSTAINING: None MOTION APPROVED: 8-0-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting of October 10, 2023 at 7:50 P.M. to the next scheduled meeting of Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. in the Main 2nd Floor Conference Room as presented MADE: A. Schwarz SECONDED: M. Cameron VOTING IN FAVOR: N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola, A. Schwarz OPPOSED: None ABSTAINING: None MOTION APPROVED: 8-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Galli
Recording Clerk