



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, September 13, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.
60 Old Boston Post Road
Main 2nd Floor Conference Room

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Members Absent (*notified, **did not notify): N. Wise (Treasurer)*

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

A request was made by N. Walsh to add the topic of **Recording of Meeting Information** to the Agenda under item 10. Old Business.

MOTION to add the topic of **Recording of Meeting Information** to the Agenda under item 10. Old Business as presented **MADE:** A. Derouaux-Welch **SECONDED:** M.A. Iadarola **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, A. Schwarz, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes of August 9, 2022 as presented **MADE:** S. Hitchcock Missel **SECONDED:** M. Delmonico **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** A. Schwarz, M. Delmonico **APPROVED:** 6-0-2.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

4. ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCIAL REPORT

The awning over the main entrance was repaired this month. This was an unexpected expense.

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

5. ACCEPTANCE OF NON-TOWN FUND REPORT

Eight tables were purchased to replace the heavy brown ones.

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

6. ACCEPTANCE OF STATISTICS REPORT

There are currently 31 libraries in the Lion consortium. Baker and Taylor, where we normally purchase the bulk of our collection from was the victim of a ransomware attack. They were offline for two weeks. Their services are slowly coming back. 10,845 items were circulated through the library via Lion. Overdrive and Overdrive Magazine numbers were up. We are looking into a new texting service to alert people of their item status in replacement of Shoutbomb. The issue with the lockers was resolved.

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

7. CORRESPONDENCES

A thank-you note was received from a patron regarding the use of the felting kit. She in turn donated some other crafting supplies to the library.

8. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Interviews for the PT Reference and 30-hour Library Assistant positions are ongoing. We continue to have staff with COVID exposure, which takes them out of the building for a minimum of five days. All members of the staff have had to work hard to cover the staffing shortage. C. Baklik's hours have increased and her new title is Programming and Communications Coordinator. A. Brouwer spoke to the Rotary Club on August 31st about the library's strategic plan, architectural feasibility study and tech classes. She will be giving a 3D Printer Class on National STEM Day, November 8th at 2 p.m.

Summer reading has come to a close with 89 adults, 49 teens and 258 children participating. The 16 August programs were attended by 365 children. 144 patrons attended the 26 adult programs offered. Books on Tap and Craft Night continue to be favorite programs. B. Story was invited to Freshmen Orientation at Camp Hazen and has begun outreach at the Estuary, offering tech help on Monday mornings. Partnerships with Lala from Sunny Train and the OS Early Childhood Council will continue. Rare book specialist Ken Gloss will speak on Sept. 15 and Ct Wineries on Sept. 19. Eileen Baker will begin a Baby Sign Language Program.

9. FRIEND'S REPORT

E. Miller, Co-Chair of Friends presented. The membership drive exceeded expectations. Miller gave credit to A. Brouwer and her staff for "helping hands" and publicity. November 18/19 will be the next small book sale/ bake sale. They are accepting books in good condition. Friends will be working with the Garden Club in connection with the Starlight Festival. Fifteen businesses will have the option of sponsoring a tree to be planted. Friends will fund solar lights for the trees, which will be decorated November 20th.

10. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion: Renovation Standing Subcommittees

N. Walsh presented. We are not at the point where we can file the grant for the library renovation but it is time to start forming subcommittees. The 8-9 member subcommittees will consist of Board members and knowledgeable townspeople. The first order of business will be to find an architect. A. Brouwer noted that the architect needs to take our vision, make it cost effective and bring it to fruition. M. Cameron, M. Delmonico and S. Mariani have volunteered for this Library Renovation Subcommittee which will include the library grounds. Also needed is a Communication Committee to be discussed at the next Board meeting.

MOTION to form a **Library Renovation Subcommittee** as presented **MADE:** A. Derouaux-Welch **SECONDED:** S. Mariani **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, A. Schwarz, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

B. Recording of Meeting Information

Based on a conversation with First Selectman C. Fortuna, N. Walsh explained the differences between in-person and virtual/hybrid recording of meetings.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on October 20th - 9:30 a.m.

B. Starlight Festival Participation on December 3rd

This year the library will have a tent. Volunteers are needed in the afternoon to do a craft and story time.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting of September 13, 2022 at 7:57 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Main 2nd Floor Conference Room as presented **MADE:** A. Schwarz **SECONDED:** M.A. Iadarola **VOTING IN FAVOR:** N. Walsh, A. Schwarz, S. Mariani, M. Cameron, M. Delmonico, A. Derouaux-Welch, S. Hitchcock Missel, M.A. Iadarola **OPPOSED:** None **ABSTAINING:** None **APPROVED:** 8-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Galli
Board Clerk