

Blackstone Public Library
Board of Trustees Minutes
April 10, 2023

Present:

Lisa Cheever, Director
Mary Lou Branchaud, Chair
Jean Alexandrowicz
Kelly Gillis, Vice-Chair
Kate Renaud, Co-Secretary
Patty Guzinski, Co-Secretary

1) Opening:

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Mary Anne Dobeck absent.
- b. Meeting minutes from March 13, 2023 approved. Jean made a motion to approve minutes, Kelly seconded: all voted in favor.
- c. Next meeting: May 8, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- d. Library Closings: April 17, 2023
- e. Next Friend's Meeting April 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Historical Room.

2) Finances:

- a. Discussed FY23 budget, balances with expenditures to date. National Grid and Liberty costs not reflected to date. Waiting on sprinkler bill which will be allocated to Building Repair and Maintenance. Large print and Audio books will be listed on May encumbrance list.

Professional Development funds currently over budget will be adjusted from LIG MEG to cover overage once amount is determined.

- b. FY24 Preliminary Budget and Warrant articles reviewed and discussed. Chair in discussion with Town Accountant to explore if the American Rescue Plan Act operating funds may be used to cover costs of two boilers and pumps. Chair and Director to meet with Selectman to discuss utilizing Marijuana Impact fees which will not move forward as a Warrant Article.

- c. Meeting with Finance Committee will take place on April 24, 2023 to discuss Library budget.

- d. Public Hearing will be held on May 11, 2023.

3) Director's Reports and Discussion:

- a. Discussed National Library week. Upcoming events include Connect with Your Community Night, Mini Golf and Spirit Day themes for staff and patrons.
- b. Letter to Xerox addressing issue with billing and expired lease had been forwarded to Town Administrator for the Town Counsel to address.
- c. Director shared past and upcoming programs and presented the highlight of the month the

“Seed Library”. This was installed and will be maintained by the Blackstone Millville Garden Club.

- d. Discussed progress on Strategic Plan Goal #4 and Goal #2.
- e. Director provided Friends of the Blackstone Library update. Book Sale will take place on Saturday March 6, 2023. Patrons who bring a food donation will receive one free book. The Friends graciously approved funding for summer programs totaling \$1,350.
- f. Director discussed Building Report, Children’s Room Report, YA Report and Circulation and Tech Services Report.

4) Trustees’ Reports and Discussions:

- a. Correspondence: Zoom attendance for meetings has been extended through May 21, 2025. Director suggested an opportunity for the Trustees to submit a proposal on August 1st to present policy for book challenges for United for Libraries Conference.
- b. Friends Book Sale will take place on May 6, 2023
- c. MMA on April 25, 2023 presentation on restricting policies related to public comment and public meetings.
- d. Discussed creating a paid board secretary. Will be revisited at August meeting to be considered for FY25 budget. Bylaws would need to be adjusted and cost applied to part time budget.
- e. Directors annual review discussed. Self-evaluation will be completed by Director for May 1, 2023. Trustees will submit feedback by May 24, 2023.

5) Old Business:

- a. Meeting with Capital Outlay representative still needs to be scheduled.
- b. April Food Drive is ongoing. Can goods will be collected at Community Night and Friends of the Library Book sale.
- c. Updated Policy has been sent out and printed.
- d. Trustee Calendar was reviewed

6) Good and Welfare

6) Adjournment: Kelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Jean seconded; all voted in favor.