

Bedford Free Public Library
Library Trustees Minutes for Tuesday, June 8th, 2021
7:00 PM • Online Meeting via Zoom

Chair Mike Pulizzi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Present

Trustees: Chair Mike Pulizzi, Elizabeth Hacala, Robin Grace Silbert, Abby Hafer, Alma Hart, Rachel Field, Fahad Alden. Other attendees: Emily Mitchell, Selectboard liaison, Dot Bergin, Bedford Citizen, Chelsea Conroy who recorded the meeting for public broadcast on Bedford TV. Administration: Richard Callaghan, Library Director. Noreen O’Gara, Assistant Director.

The Chair asked if there were any public comments. None were forthcoming.

Secretary’s Report

The May minutes were approved: Moved by Elizabeth, seconded by Rachel. Ayes: Fahad, Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin: Vote 7-0-0.

Director’s Report

- The popular museum pass service has returned with the reopening of the library. We have new software that allows some passes to be printed out right from home or downloaded to your phone. Not all museums are open yet so the number passes is limited.
- The Friends are having a pop-up book sale outside under the portico on Saturday, June 26th. They have a lot of inventory so we will hopefully have a busy day!
- Bob with help from Keith from Facilities got the A/C up and running. The custodians continue to clean and paint. The Garden Club has planted annuals near the main entrance.
- Best Bees has setup the hive after a delay in getting the bees up from Georgia. The Andy Zuckerman Fund is funding the annual cost for the maintenance of the bees.

The report approval was moved by Rachel, seconded by Elizabeth. Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin, Fahad 7-0-0

Unfinished Business

- Annual Town Meeting: The Library’s HVAC project was approved by a majority vote after some discussion. The library budget passed unanimously.
- Library reopening discussion - the library reopened on June 2nd on a limited schedule. The board discussed the Health Department’s policy on vaccinated patrons not having to wear masks. The Director mentioned most staff members and patrons were wearing masks anyway. Plexiglas had been installed at the circulation and reference desks.
- Children’s Room Project - supply chain delays have left this project in limbo for the moment. Our vendor, Tucker Interiors is still waiting for the shelving to be finished.

New Business

- Fines discussion: The Board discussed the continuation of the no fines policy now that the library has reopened. After much discussion, the Board voted to continue the no fines policy until June 2022. The motion to extend the current policy was moved by Elizabeth, seconded by Alma. Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin, Fahad 7-0-0
- Bedford Minuteman digitization: The microfilm of the Bedford Minuteman has been digitized. The years 1957-1966 have been completed and are up on our website. The years 1967-1984 are in process.

Other Business

- Public meetings - remote policy. We are waiting on the State to extend rules for remote meetings. If they do not extend the current rules, the July meeting would have to be in person.

Next Meeting: Tuesday July 13th, 2021

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm. Robin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Abby seconded: Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin, Fahad 7-0-0 .

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Fahad Alden.

Documents distributed during the meeting: Agenda, Director's Report, and May 2021 Expenditures, May 2021 Statistics.