

Bedford Free Public Library
Library Trustees Minutes for Tuesday, July 13, 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. 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 June minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Director’s Report

- The library will be offering notary services beginning this month. Youth Services Library Pam Aghababian will be available during her regular hours. As the town clerk’s office does not offer notary services any longer this will be a convenience to our patrons.
- The Friends book sale on Saturday, June 26th was a great success. We had customers here at 10 am even though it did not start until 11! It was so successful they are going to have another pop-up sale on Saturday, August 7 from 10-2.
- Bethany has been elected to the position of vice-president/president elect of the New England Library Association. She will be vice president this year and president in July 2022. Congratulations to Bethany!
- The Bedford Minuteman digitization project is now been updated through 1984. <https://bedfordma.advantage-preservation.com/>. The rolls of microfilm have been returned to the Bedford Room.
- Facilities -water fountains/drinking stations

The report approval was moved by Rachel, seconded by Elizabeth. Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin, 6-0-0

Unfinished Business

- FY21 budget review: The Board reviewed the FY21 budget year.
- Diversity Audit review - the board discussed the audit, including statistics on national diversity vs local, the publishing industry’s attempts to get more diverse children’s books authors and the current state of the collection.
- Library reopening discussion - the library returned to a normal opening schedule on July 6th. Patrons are happy to be back in the building. We can continue to meet remotely until next spring though we could meet in person also depending on conditions.

- Peace Pole Project - the Board choose to locate the peace pole in the garden by the main entrance. The site approval was moved by Abby, seconded by Alma. Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin, 6-0-0.

New Business

- Mobile hotspot grant program: The MBLC awarded the library 10 new internet hotspots for the Library of Things collection. The grant covers all costs and runs through 2022.

Other Business

- MLN annual agreement: the agreement between the Minuteman Library Network and the library will be signed by Mike this week.

Next Meeting: Tuesday September 14th, 2021

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm. Elizabeth made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Rachel seconded: Approved 6-0-0.

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Richard Callaghan, Director.

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