

Bedford Free Public Library
Library Trustees Minutes for Tuesday, October 12, 2021
7:00 PM • Online Meeting via Zoom

Chair Mike Pulizzi called the meeting to order at 7:08.

Present

Trustees: Chair Mike Pulizzi, Abby Hafer, Alma Hart, Rachel Field, Fahad Alden, Elizabeth Hacala, Robin Grace Silbert. Other attendees: Dot Bergin, Bedford Citizen. 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 were approved: Moved by Elizabeth, seconded by Alma. Ayes: Fahad, Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin: Vote 7-0-0.

The July minutes were approved: Moved by Abby, seconded by Robin. Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin: Fahad abstained. Vote 6-0-1.

The September minutes were approved: Moved by Rachel, seconded by Alma. Ayes: Rachel, Abby, Alma, Mike, Fahad: Elizabeth, Robin abstained. Vote 5-0-2.

Director’s Report

- The Peace Pole was installed in the garden near the main entrance.
- DPW is installing a vehicle shelter in the back corner of the parking lot.
- The Board wanted to thank Noreen and Janel for getting the annual report to the town and the financial statistics for state aid respectively, completed.

The reports for both September and October were approved. Moved by Rachel, seconded by Abby. Ayes: Fahad, Rachel, Abby, Elizabeth, Alma, Mike, Robin: Vote 7-0-0.

Unfinished Business

- COVID 19 status update: no changes from the Board of Health.
- Children’s Room project: Project has been completed and the staff is in the process of returning books to the shelves.
- The Library will be reopening on Sundays starting October 17th.

New Business

- Staff changes during the pandemic. The board discussed the changes to the staff due to retirements, resignations and other job changes (leaving the area, going to college etc.). The pandemic definitely accelerated some retirements. Other area libraries are experiencing the same difficulties in staffing. See attached outline.

Other Business

The Friends of the Library book sale is on Saturday, October 16th.

- Special Town Meeting is Monday, November 1st at 7 pm.
- Rachel requested that the board review the signage for the public printing at the November meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 9th, 2021

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm. Alma made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Rachel seconded: Approved 7-0-0.

Meeting minutes are respectfully submitted by Fahad Alden.

Documents distributed during the meeting: Agenda, Director's Report, and September 2021 Expenditures, September 2021 Statistics. Review of staffing changes during the pandemic.