

**Easton Public Library
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes
Library Community Room
January 8, 2024**

Present. L. Zaffino, A. Burke, D. Parker, R. Neiger, P. Dacey, V. Peskay, and G. Hajek
Guests: None

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:08pm
2. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Vida and seconded by Diane to approve the November minutes. All were in favor.
3. Treasurer's Report: Report was distributed and discussed. Adrienne reported that the funds are moving in the right direction, and we are in a better position than we were a year ago.
4. Library Director's Report: Please see attached. Adrienne suggested saving the weeded books for the next Friends' Book Sale. Lynn said the Friends have opted not to sell the books from the collection. Vida will research possible donation sites for the books. Diane suggested St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Fairfield. They have a book donation box outside. She also suggested Goodwill and Savers.
5. Friends of the Library Report: George reported that the Tree Lighting/Holiday Market and the Gingerbread House Workshop and contest were well attended and successful. The next Friends meeting will take place on January 17 at 7:00 or 7:30 (need to confirm time). Vida expressed interest in attending. Lynn will get back to her with details.
6. Bills and Communications: Lynn reviewed bills paid and donations received since the last meeting. A thank-you note from Phyllis Machledt was also received, which Lynn read to the group.
7. Public Participation: None
8. Old Business:
 - a. **Children's Expansion**: In order to apply for the State Library construction grant, a member of the Board must be a voting member of the Building Committee. Vida, Diane, and Peter all volunteered. Lynn will check to see if an alternate can fulfill the requirement. Lynn has reached out to a couple of potential grant writers. One didn't respond. The other normally charges \$100 per hour, but she is willing to be flexible. Lynn and Mary Beth, along with a few members of the Building Committee, took a tour of the old New Academy Preschool building, which the First Congregational Church is planning to sell. Potential for temporary or permanent use will be discussed at the next Building Committee meeting on January 11.
 - b. **Policy Updates**: The Board reviewed updates of two policies. For the Policy on Art Displays and Exhibits in the Library, Renee made a motion to accept the updated version and Vida seconded. All were in favor. For the Library Computer and Internet Safety Policy, Adrienne made a motion to accept the updated version (with one word added) and Diane seconded. All were in favor.
9. New Business:
 - a. **Association of Connecticut Library Boards (ACLB)**: Peter proposed joining as an institutional member for \$100 for a year. Peter made the motion and Vida seconded. All were in favor. Lynn will use the Library credit card to purchase the membership.

- b. **Public Facing Communication Representative for Board:** Peter proposed having one Board member volunteer to be a contact person for Board inquiries. A discussion ensued regarding the necessity for this. It was agreed that this issue would be tabled until next month's meeting, when more Board members would be present. Vida recommended having a form at the Circulation Desk for patrons to give a "report card" of their Library visit. She also recommended that Lynn report at least one patron interaction per meeting, so that the Board can get an idea of what kinds of questions/concerns/suggestions Lynn receives.
- 10. **Adjournment:** Renee made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Adrienne seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Next meeting: February 5, 2024

Submitted by Lynn Zaffino

EASTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING – January 8, 2024
LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. The Town had hired a temporary custodian. He resigned after three weeks. We are hoping to fill the position again as soon as possible.
2. I am currently weeding our Adult Fiction and Audiobook sections. I have found some local assisted living facilities to take some of the audiobooks, but the books are harder to find homes for. If anyone knows of places that take donations, please let me know.
3. This year's One Book/One Town Community Read is *We All Want Impossible Things* by Catherine Newman. Multiple copies of the book are available now. The author will give a talk and book signing on 2/24 at 2pm. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for funding the books and the author event.
4. Upcoming special programs include the following:
 - 1/11 – Innovation Space Open Hours (Ages 6-18)
 - Saturdays, 1/13 - 2/17 – Cybersecurity Classes
 - 1/13 & 1/20 – Coding Classes (Gr. 6-8)
 - 1/16 – 1/18 – High School Study Nights for Mid-Terms
 - 1/18 – Pet Rocks Rock (Gr. K-5)
 - 1/22 – Stuffed Animal Story Time (Ages 2-5)
 - 1/24 – Classic Film Series: *Stars in My Crown*
 - 1/28 – Author Talk: Elisabeth Breslav (rescheduled from 1/7 due to snow)
 - 1/31 – Ripped from the Headlines Author Panel
 - 2/1 – Truck-A-Palooza (Ages 2-5)
 - 2/3 – Take Your Child to the Library Day
 - 2/7 – Camp Out in the Library (all ages)
 - 2/8 – Rock the Shelves (Gr. 6-12)
 - 2/13 – Successfully Navigate College Admissions in 2024 (Gr. 9-11 & Parents)

Submitted by Lynn Zaffino
1/4/24