

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE ABINGTON TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Date: October 23, 2023

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Joe Milano, Elaine Cassidy Shanahan, Maurie Markman, Daniel Kaye, Liz Fitzgerald, Meg Mitchell and Terry Biansco. Diane Moskal was also in attendance.

MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes of September 18, 2023, was made by Joe Milano, seconded by Maurie Markman. Motion was approved.

PRESENTATION: No presentation was made.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Due to Dimitra's absence, no treasurer's report was reviewed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Personnel and Library Business:
 - Friends of the Abington Libraries hosted a range of celebrations for National Friends of the Library Week
 - Events took place nearly every day, including a staff luncheon
 - Open House on Saturday, October 21
 - Upcoming author visits at PSU Abington: Jennifer Weiner on 4/8/24 and Ayanna Mathis on 6/4/24
 - Meg Mitchell, Daniel Kaye, Daniel's wife Wendy and Liz Fitzgerald attended NAACP Banquet on 10/15/23. David Mwaria (Roslyn page) was honored with a scholarship.
 - Angie Moretti is now the full-time library assistant.
 - Vacancy now exists for part-time Library Assistant
 - Looking for new Acquisitions and Interlibrary Loan Coordinator since position was vacated by Susan Schmid.
- Strategic Plan
 - Library staff have attended community events to engage the public in learning about the library. Mimi Sattlethwaite attended Highland Elementary's 100th anniversary and Meg Mitchell attended Roslyn car show.
 - Jeanne Zucker and Sara Huff presented posters at PA Library Association Annual Conference: Jeanne for Mindfulness Take and Makes and Sara for the Self-Care Station. Congrats to Sara for receiving an honorable mention for humanities programming!
 - Staff are ordering books to fill slots identified by recent diversity audit.
- Reference
 - Shout out to book displays. Brian Marino collaborated with Upper Dublin and Abington Human Relations Committee to create a display on combatting anti-Semitism. Other displays included ones for Hispanic Heritage month, September 11, and "Fall in Love."
- Programming Highlights
 - Library will offer one-on-one support for patrons 50+ rather than continue "digital skills ready (DSR@50+)" classes, formerly funded by AARP, that aimed to prepare people for workforce.
 - Aging Gracefully series wrapped up and was a great success.
 - Classes on Mindfulness Meditation, Permaculture, and A Taste of African Heritage were well-attended and well-received. Mindfulness Meditation classes will continue on Saturdays through December.
 - Smartphones class at Willow Grove Giant took place in late September.
- Upcoming Programs and Events
 - Early Learners Play Group will take place in November and December.
 - A letter-writing station, including instructions, is now set up in the YA area
 - Sara and Jessica were invited to Pride in the Park event in September where they shared information about Rainbow Connections and Q Crew.
 - Kids have been loving the Scavenger Hunt!
- Technology & Technical Services
 - New website is in the works and will soon go to the beta stage, with a public roll-out soon after.

- Beth Jacksier oversaw Local Author Expo and over 30 authors presented their work. Event took place in coordination with Friends of the Abington Libraries Book and Plant Sale.
- Roslyn Library
 - Meg Mitchell gave the board an overview of the history of the Roslyn library. It was started by volunteers in the 1960s. The building has been in its existing location for 51 years.
 - Roslyn is a resource for community members looking for low-key activities, quiet place to work or opportunities for social connection.
 - It provides classes on computer literacy, preschool play dates and numerous other offerings.
 - Recent/regular offerings
 - The Barn Nature Center led program with live animals from the rainforest recently, which was well-attended and very popular!
 - Regular storytimes have an average of 15 people in attendance at each offering.
 - Museum passes are very popular resources.
- Facilities
 - HVAC unit coil was replaced this month as part of the capital project.
 - ATPL co-signed and received a micro-grant with the Shade Tree Commission.
 - Jim Sheridan is addressing punch-list of fix-it tasks in his first months in his position.

ADULT LITERACY:

- Over 400 hours of instructional and tutoring were completed this past month!
- 24 tutors attended the September Tutor Support meeting.
- The board discussed the possibility of recruiting PSU Abington students to be tutors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Friends – Terry Biansco: National Friends of the Library Week was great. It provided lots of activities. Friends organized a lunch for the staff. Terry emphasized how the Friends are so grateful for the library staff. Terry also shared history of the Friends. It was incorporated in 1972 and played a critical role in getting the building for the current library. 1600 people came to the Open House. More events are planned for the spring with the author series, another book sale, and holiday events like Winterfest (December 9).
- B. Development/Long-Range Planning – Lauren Greaves: No report
- C. Personnel – Nancy Wright: No report
- D. Facilities – Joe Milano: No report
- E. Finance – Emily Cooper: No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing to address.

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing to address.

CORRESPONDENCE: Distributed to all Board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Joe Milano to adjourn the meeting of the Board, seconded by Elaine Cassidy Shanahan. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.
Our next meeting is November 27, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Cassidy Shanahan
Secretary