

February 16, 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Trustees of the Rowley Public Library

Present: Jeff Bard, Glenn Blakney, Beth Enos, Jody Fleit, Pam Jacobson, Melinda Patrick, Karen Ziemplak

Absent: Liz Cullen, Janet Peabody, Kathleen Petrowicz

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 PM.

Welcome guests -

Public Comments - This is the first time we are including public comments in our agenda. The guests were Esther Butler, Abeba Whitmore, and Matt Mooney. Guests from the Friends of the Library were Sieglinde Aigner-Crooks and Stephen Markarian.

Please bear in mind that we are still wearing facial masks which sometimes makes it hard to understand everyone.

Public Comments are as follows:

Esther Butler spoke about her concern with the lack of programs for children. Is there an individual that is in charge of programs.

Abeba Whitmore has stopped coming to the library because she didn't feel welcome and her son was ignored.

Matt Mooney stated that the library is not the most welcoming place and that his children were getting glared at when they were in the library.

Review of the January 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes

See January 18th Minutes

Motion: Melinda Patrick motions to accept the minutes; Jeff Bard seconded. Approved unanimously.

Review of the Report and Budget Report for January

See January Director's Report and Budget Report for details.

Some discussion was held for the future budget with inflation being a large factor.

Motion: Jeff Bard motions to accept the Director's Report and Budget Report for January. Jodi Fleit seconded. Approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Cheney Garden maintenance. Beth and Pam have met with someone who is very interested in taking this on. This has been put on hold until the spring when the garden can be correctly evaluated.

Town building mask mandate - As of now there is no change to the mandate and the Selectmen will revisit it in two weeks.

New Business:

Ethics acknowledgment - a reminder to all the Trustees to make sure they have completed the 2022 Annual Conflict of Interest Notice.

Obtaining signatures for nomination papers - included in the packet for this meeting is the Solicitation of Signatures letter from the state explaining the rules for gaining signatures.

Glenn Blakney and Karen Ziemplak will be running again.

Liz Cullen and Jody Fleit will not be running.

Please keep in mind anyone that you know who would like the position of Trustee.

Friends of the Library: There is no update from the Friends of the Library.

Action: Glenn and Janet met and will continue to go over Pam's review.

Action: Pam and Janet will meet to go over the Memorandum with the Friends of the Library and the Policy for Public Comment.

Action: Pam will resend the email containing the 2022 Annual Conflict of Interest Notice.

Action: Since the budget is due so soon we will try and schedule a Zoom meeting for March 1st at 7 PM to review and vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM. Melinda Patrick motions and Karen Ziemplak seconded. Approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2022, at 7 PM.