

## **MINUTES OF PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY OF DANVERS TRUSTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

**Present:** Noelle Boc, Jessica Cargile, Julie Curtis, Charles Desmond, Christi Farrar, Natalie Luca Fiore, Michael Hagan, Kenneth Yoon Lee

**Absent:** Irene Conte, Donna Hopkins

**Call to Order:** The April 12, 2023 library trustee meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairperson Natalie Luca Fiore

**Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Chairperson Luca Fiore.

**Public Comments:** There were no public attending for comments nor were there any public comments submitted for consideration.

**Approval of the minutes of the March 8, 2023 meeting:** A motion was made by Christi Farrar and seconded by Kenneth Yoon Lee to accept the minutes of the secretary for the March 8, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Trustee Reports:**

**Chairperson's Report -** Chairperson Natalie Luca Fiore reported the libraries budget passed was passed as recommended to go to the Finance Committee in March at the Select Board's review of the budget. Luca Fiore passed a letter around for us to read from a happy parent.

**Treasurer Report – Approval of Treasurer's Report -** Due to Treasurer Donna Hopkins absence from tonight's committee meeting, it was decided to table the report to next month's meeting.

**Director's Report** - Discussion on Intellectual Freedom challenges and communication. Both Boc and Christi Farrar have attended a web seminar on this. Boc gave a review of the seminar and the impact of this in Massachusetts and beyond. After the discussion, Boc suggested that the library limit any public comments to a maximum of fifteen minutes. After the discussion, a motion was made by Julie Curtis and seconded by Christi Farrar that moving forward any public comments made be limited to 15 minutes maximum. Motion passed unanimously.

**BUDGET -** The library's budget was passed as recommended to go on to the Finance Committee in March at the Select Board's review of the town budget. The Financial Committee approved our budget. One member mentioned the number of children's programs and that she took advantage of them.

**OUTREACH AND PROGRAMS –** Director Boc reported on the following:

New English as a Second Language conversation classes will be starting up on Saturdays twice a month. Author Cathy P. Johnson "The Breakaways" is coming to the library on May 17<sup>th</sup> to teach teens how to make their own comics.

Middle and High Schools are using MTCBA list for summer reading.

A patron at the “pop up” at the senior center spoke highly of the assistance Jillian Parsons, Head of Community and Outreach Services had offered her.

New England Homes for the Deaf wants to expand our visits to them.

Drag make-up by Diamond Wigfall will be at the library on .may 10<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 pm

Mural fundraising has been going well. We are at about 65% of the total id. Amy Martin, Head of Children’s Services has applied for and received two state-funded grants.

Town Events coming up –

The library will participate again this year in the Light the Night Purple event that is to support those struggling with opioid addiction and is run by DanversCARES. The event will take place out on the library lawn on the evening of Wednesday, May 17th.

The town Pride Party is currently being planned for Thursday, June 1 on the library lawn after the flag raising at Town Hall.

Race Amity Day will be held on the library lawn on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 pm

Juneteenth Ceremony will occur in front of Town Hall on Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

The Summer Concert Series sponsored by the Recreation Department will be back in full muster this year. They are planning two concerts per week on Mondays and Wednesdays for six weeks starting on July 10<sup>th</sup> at the Rotary Pavilion.

STAFF –

Angelina Miller, Reference Head/Information Services and Jenny Santomauro, Head of Teen Services, are looking to collaborate on doing an Escape Room

Shilpa Jacobie, Assistant Head of Reference received a commendation letter from the Massachusetts Teen Choice Book Awards.

A patron at the Senior Center pop up spoke highly of Head of Community and Outreach Services Jillian Parsons and the assistance she had given her.

Several staff members are finally taking advantage of the professional development funding closely, which are usually funded by using a combination of State Aid and Trust Fund monies. We will probably aim to increase that funding this next fiscal year due to the interest of the staff in pursuing opportunities.

**Old Business:** Strategic Plan update - Kenneth Yoon Lee, Chair of the Library Strategic Planning Committee, has sent out an email to the committee scheduling the first meeting for Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 pm.

**New Business:** The trustees were informed that the Massachusetts Library System offers mini-grants to staff for language learning. A staff member may be entitled to \$500 per class if approved.

**Adjournment:** Where there was no other business presented, a motion was made by Christi Farrar and seconded by Charles Desmond to adjourn the April 12, 2023 trustee meeting at 8:20 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie E. Curtis, Recording Secretary