

## **MINUTES OF THE PEABODY INSTITUTE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING**

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 – DCAT Building

**Present:** Noelle Boc, Jessica Cargile, Irene Conte, Julie Curtis, Charles Desmond, Natalie Luca Fiore, Michael Hagan, Donna Hopkins, Kenneth Yoon Lee, Cory Ryan

**Guest:** David Elzey

**Call to Order:** The January 8, 2025 meeting of the library trustees was called to order by Chairperson Donna Hopkins at 7:05 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Hopkins.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments either made or submitted for trustee consideration.

**Vote to approve the secretary minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting:** A motion was made by Jessica Cargile and seconded by Kenneth Yoon Lee to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2024 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Trustee Reports:**

Chairperson's Report – Chairperson Donna Hopkins reported that her business would be reported under old business.

Treasurer's Report – Because of the holidays the investment report was not received. As a result, the treasurer report is tabled until the February meeting.

**Director's Report:** Director Boc reported the following:

Staff - Our Archivist, Richard Trask, has been able to visit the Archives a couple of times recently. We are hopeful that he may be able to spend time regularly here in the future.

Everything Else -Police were called when an unfamiliar to staff man left the library and went into the parking lot and started asking other patrons for a ride. He got somewhat aggressive when no one would agree to drive him somewhere. He left when confronted by one of the patrons. The police came and took a report from Boc and two patrons. The Town received a grant on Equity Assessments and how town employees can measure improvements. The Massachusetts Library legislative breakfast will be held at the Abbott Library in Marblehead on February 7, 2025. Local legislators are invited to hear about libraries funding priorities. There is upcoming free training for trustees training being offered on line. Chris Peterson of Richmond, Virginia, gave \$2500 to the Archives a couple of months ago and just followed that up with another \$1000 donation.

**Old Business:**

Tuition Reimbursement/Scholarship Policy update – was tabled until next month.

**New Business:**

Fiscal Year 2026 Town Budget Goals and Objectives feedback – was reviewed and the trustees approved it.

Programming Policy Draft for Review – The new programming policy as modified by Director Noelle Boc upon last month's trustees request was approved by a vote of the trustees.

Trustee Mike Hagan spoke about concerns regarding director Boc having to close the library due to shortage of staff. It was brought up that the newly adopted union contract does not discuss shortages of staff. It was also pointed out that the trustees had no oversight of employee contracts and the closing policy was a moot issue.

**Adjournment:** Where there was no other business presented, a motion was made by Natalie Luca Fiore and seconded by Kenneth Yoon Lee to adjourn the January 8, 2025 Meeting of the Board of Library Trustees at 7:47 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Curtis  
Recording Secretary