

Barrett Paradise Friendly Library
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2024

Meeting held in the Weiler Family Community Room with a virtual option

In Attendance: Mike Stein, President; Julie Wynne, Vice President; Richard Leist, Treasurer; Cindy Cook, Secretary. Trustees: Lisa Flanagan, Brette Fulton, Judi Jabara, Nancy Lewis, Julie Niering, Maureen Siglin, Darryl Speicher. Mary Ann Lewis, Library Director, and Erin Morrow, Easton Library District Consultant. Julie Niering attended virtually.

Mike Stein, President, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

The August 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed. Julie Wynne made a motion to approve the minutes, Nancy Lewis second, and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained due to being absent in August.

Treasurer's Report –Richard Leist reiterated that our balance sheet is rock solid with no liabilities. He noted the report shows a large increase in cash and a decrease in fixed income that reflects CDs coming due. The funds from those CDs have been invested in laddered CDs. He also noted that expenses are more than last year but less than budget. He commented that the recent investment return has been fairly strong. Lisa Flanagan made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Julie Wynne second, and all were in favor. Richard Leist abstained.

Library Director's Report – Mary Ann reported that August was a good month at the library but July was the busiest month of the summer. Pocono Mountain Regional EMS held a CPR class; Julie Wynne attended and reported it was very good. Mary Ann reported Narcan is now in the library in case of an overdose emergency. Chelsea and Mary Ann attended an armed intruder class and met an instructor who may be able to teach a self-defense class at the library. Mary Ann will be attending the Pennsylvania Library Association conference in Harrisburg October 6- 9, 2024. Mary Ann attended a webinar on new tools for generating statistical reports from the state report. Mary Ann also received info from the PA Department of Education on the availability of a tool kit for media literacy. Mary Ann shared a note from a grateful patron who also made a donation to the library. Mary Ann also said the library helped to connect two patrons who had lost each other's contact information.

Circulation overall is looking very good and the report showed an uptick since last year, especially with children's items.

Programs have been well attended, children's programs especially. Mary Ann noted some story times have had over 30 attendees.

Some events happening in October are a morning birding hike with Jackie Speicher on October 12. Treats on the trail will also take place on October 12 in the afternoon. Mary Ann asked for a few volunteers to help hand out treats along the storywalk trail at Ice Lake. On October 13 the library will participate in the Barrett Township Historical Society's event at the train station.

Building Report – RJ Groner is still working on the proposal to change the fluid in the geothermal system; they are working with a company in Rhode Island.

The carpets were cleaned over Labor Day weekend.

Karl Weiler and Logan Evans have reviewed the plans and what work has been done on the landscaping. Logan is consulting with Carol Hillstead on the rain gardens and the outdoor reading area. Mary Ann has a telephone call in to Leddy Communications for a proposal on a new phone system.

Fundraising – The Friends Letter has generated \$15,795.06 with 176 donors to date. That total is \$1752.00 ahead of last year at this time with 9 fewer donors.

The Basket Raffle will be held November 18 – December 7. The drawing will be held on December 7 at 5:30 p.m. There are already 15 baskets ready to go.

Grants and Donations – No new updates except that Chelsea will attend the Family Place training at the end of October that is funded by a Hughes Foundation grant. The AWE learning station will be ordered by the end of year which is also funded by the grant.

Searchable History Project – Aaron Imbt from the Paradise Historical Society is working with the consultant on scanning and making the items searchable.

Nomination Committee – It was reported a meeting will be held.

Library 2034 – Mike Stein reported the committee is working on the vision for the library in 10 years. The primary task currently is to finalize the community survey. The survey was passed out and the Board's input was requested. The other tasks include developing a vision and timeline.

Other business – Mary Ann reported that if any visitors have questions about the ballot box located at the library the county has instructed them to have the person contact the voter/elections office.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m. Julie Wynne made motion, Lisa Flanagan second.

Next Meeting October 28, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.