



Ayer Library Board Open Session Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2022

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A, Section 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Ayer Library Board of Trustees is being conducted by remote participation. Every effort has been made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided in the Order. Broadcast and recorded by APAC.

Sharon Slarsky, president, presiding. Meeting called to order at 6:00pm
Trustees present: Becky Campaner - acting secretary, Maggie Durand, Robert Gardner, Susan Kennedy – treasurer, Rebecca Myers, and Sharon Slarsky – president
Trustees absent: Debra Faust-Clancy and Cyndi Lavin
Also present: Tim Silva – Library Director, Samantha Benoit – Asst. Library Director, Cindy Knox – Ayer IT Director

Agenda Item: Call to Order

Review and approval of agenda: No changes made

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Gardner and seconded by Sue Kennedy to approve the meeting agenda as posted.

Motion passed by a voice vote 6-0-0

Announcements: Director Tim Silva informed everyone that the first budget meeting will be next Wednesday, January 26th at 6:00pm via zoom. Tim will be attending.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Becky noted that Christina's last name was incorrect and needed to be changed to Zoller.

Motion: A motion was made by Becky Campaner and seconded by Bob Gardner to approve the minutes from December 9, 2021 with the proposed change.

Motion passed by a voice vote 6-0-0

Agenda Item: Reports(attached)

Treasurer: Sue Kennedy reported that there has been no activity other than interest on the accounts.

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Gardner and seconded by Becky Campaner to approve the Treasurer's report.

Motion passed by a voice vote 6-0-0

Director: Tim highlighted some items from his report- 1. Barbara's felting class on

December 7th was fully subscribed. Author talks with other libraries did not end up being well attended, 5 or less Ayer subscribers. 2. A new event calendar, museum pass, and room reservation system for the Library is almost up and running. 3. The library received word from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners in early December that the Library has once again met the qualifications for the State Aid to Public Libraries program for FY2022. Tim shared the 2nd quarter money collected which was mostly from sending faxes and making copies.

Samantha pulled from Munis some figures to highlight FY 22 budget. 53.8% of the budget has been spent but, we are looking good for the rest of the year.

FY23 budget process - Department heads met last week. First draft is on the town website. Tim sent in to town hall our proposed 5% increase he has not heard anything back from town hall.

Bob asked about the ceiling. Nothing new. The capital committee is ready to fund the project. It could be paid out of the reserve fund to get the job done sooner.

Sharon asked if the board could do anything to move the project along. Tim has asked Robert for this project to be done as soon as possible. There is a possibility that the money might be available as soon as April 2022.

Sue asked if we could reserve a contractor now for April/May. The reservation of the contractor is in the hands of Chuck Shultz. Chuck oversees the project and the work. Tim will contact Chuck to see where he is at and report at the next meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Gardner and seconded by Becky Campaner to approve the Director's report.

Motion passed by a voice vote 6-0-0

Agenda Item: Old Business

Staff compensation - Kevin has rated the staff positions. Tim has not had a chance to meet with Kevin to go over his findings.

Library Open Hours- Changing the library hours for the month of February and March due to a very low average of patrons coming in after 6:00pm on Tuesday - Thursday evenings. Data was collected over the last few months. The change will help with addressing staff shortage and low visitation. The staff will not lose hours. There will be more staff through the day. During the next two month Tim will come up with a permanent change for hours taking into consideration the expressed public desire for more weekend hours.

Rebecca Myers left the meeting at 6:45

Sharon asked if there had been any trouble with patrons wearing masks. Tim is

unaware of any issues with mask wearing.

Sue asked if there are board of health signs posted to wear masks. There are signs in a few locations, sanitizer and a box of masks are at the main entrance.

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Gardner and seconded by Becky Campaner to approve the new hours discussed.

Motion passed by a voice vote 5-0-0

Agenda Item: New Business

Sharon asked if Tim could post on the website and on Facebook that we are in need of filling another seat on the board of trustees. Tim will reach out to those who had expressed interest a while back. Sue asked if it could also be posted in the library on the bulletin board and in the shed. Bob suggested asking if anyone had interest in joining the board at the next Friends of the library meeting.

Rebecca Myers came back to the meeting at 7:00

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 17, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Adjournment:

Motion: A motion was made by Bob Gardner and seconded by Becky Campaner to adjourn at 7:05 pm.

Motion passed by a voice vote 6-0-0

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