



Raritan Public Library

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June 17th, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:06pm by Jane Fidacaro, Board Vice-President. Jane Fidacaro read a statement that the meeting, held at the Library, was duly publicized and it was called pursuant to provisions from the Open Public Meeting Law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Fidacaro, L. Hnasko, A. Goetsch, J. Foohey, L. Sandler (BRSD rep), U. Agrawal, Mayor Zach Bray and M. Paese, Director.
Absent: Don Esposito.

J. Fidacaro led the flag salute.

The Director introduced Daniel McLoone, Eagle Scout, who along with his Troop, has been working on the "Free Library Boxes". Daniel showed a sample of one of the completed boxes to the Board. The Trustees were quite impressed with the workmanship including the cedar shake shingles and painted brick sides. Six boxes have been made in total. Daniel will be adding a small plaque to each and then will deliver the boxes to the Library. The Trustees thanked Daniel for the Troop's hard work and their great accomplishment.

MINUTES: A. Goetsch made a motion to approve the regular minutes and executive minutes from the May 20th, 2021 Board Meeting, J. Foohey seconded the motion. All trustees approved except U. Agrawal and L. Sandler who abstained as they were absent from the previous month's meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Z. Bray made a motion to approve the June bills, J. Foohey seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Mary Pat Gausz resigned from the Board after last month's meeting. The Director mailed her a card thanking her for her service as a Trustee.
- Monthly Board meetings will now be held at the Library. Ads were placed in both the local newspapers and on our website making note of the change.
- On Monday, the carpeting on the stairs will be replaced and the job will be complete.
- Now that Covid restrictions are being lifted, the Director discussed changing the mask mandate from "required" to "recommended". The Trustees agreed to the change.
- Sam Loos from HMR Architects made a measurement drawing of our basement...a first step needed for the basement restoration work. He also suggested that the gutters be cleaned as there appears to be clogs from leaves and debris. This causes water run-off from the gutters to the base of the foundation wall. The Director received a quote from

Padovani Roofing of \$1800 to clean all gutters and install downspout strainers. Subsequent cleaning will cost \$1,200.

J. Fidacaro made a motion to approve Padovani's work, Z. Bray seconded the motion and the roll call was unanimous.

- July 10th marks a significant time at our Library as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the Knox-Porter Resolution ending WWI. The Library in conjunction with Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission has hired a re-enactor to play President Harding. Raritan Historic and Cultural Committee is also participating that day with a photo opportunity relating to the signing.
- The Library has added a new museum pass program to the Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia. We now have 5 in total and they are all open for visits.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jane Fidacaro reported that Ann Marie Mead will take Mary Pat Gausz's position as a Trustee and will start her position in September.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: J. Foohey stated that the Community Yard Sale was a success. They will continue in the future to have it on the first Saturday in May. Jim will be holding a "Friends" meeting soon and will discuss having a book sale in the fall.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:50pm, a motion was made by J. Fidacaro to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A. Goetsch. The roll call was unanimous.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held at the Library on July 15th, 2021 at 7:00 pm.