



# Raritan Public Library

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September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00pm by Don Esposito, Board President. D. Esposito 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: D. Esposito, J. Fidacaro, J. Foohey, U. Agrawal, A. M. Mead, L. Sandler (BRSD rep), Mayor Zach Bray and M. Paese, Director. Absent: A. Goetsch and L. Hnasko.

D. Esposito led the flag salute.

The Trustees welcomed back A.M. Mead to the Library Board.

MINUTES: J. Fidacaro made a motion to approve the regular and executive minutes from the July 15th, 2021 Board Meeting, J. Foohey seconded the motion. All trustees approved except A. M. Mead who abstained as she was not present at the previous month's meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A.M. Mead made a motion to approve the August bills, Z. Bray seconded and the roll call was unanimous. A. M. Mead made a motion to approve the September bills, seconded by Z. Bray and the roll call was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:10pm, Z. Bray made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a banned patron and personnel matters, J. Fidacaro seconded and the roll call was unanimous. A motion was made by J. Fidacaro at 7:25pm to return to regular session, seconded by J. Foohey and the roll call was unanimous.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- The Library, luckily, sustained no damage from Hurricane Ida. We were extremely fortunate compared to other houses and businesses in the surrounding area.
- A public announcement system was purchased to use for outdoor events which most likely be more frequent in the future.
- The Library was gifted 10 bound books containing original newspaper articles from the Raritan Valley Newspaper from various years between 1935 and 1950. It is the Library's goal to digitize them.
- The Library held a program in early September on the clothing, equipment, weapons, and food used by a typical Civil War soldier. It was presented by Tim Rack from the Raritan Historic and Cultural Committee.

Upcoming Programs:

- This Saturday, the Library, in conjunction with the John Basilone Committee, is hosting an outdoor concert: "A Tribute to Elvis" by Jim Barone. Eighty people are expected to attend.
- Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, marks the 40<sup>th</sup> annual John Basilone Parade. The Library will once again be open from 10:00am until 1:00pm with memorabilia, movie clips, etc.
- Bi-monthly yoga sessions with Breda have become very popular with nice attendance.
- On October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, the Library will again participate in the annual Somerset County Weekend Journey. On Sunday, Dave Bala will present an ongoing demonstration on blacksmithing.
- Classic movies are returning. October's feature is "Tickle Me", starring Elvis Presley.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: D. Esposito gave an update on the Library's foundation project and reported that HMR Architects has finished drawings and that the work will now go out to bid. The Borough will take care of the bidding process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: J. Foohey reported that the 'Friends' gave away books and Library program fliers at the town event 'Discovering Raritan'. The Friends group will begin taking book donations in November for the upcoming Holiday Book Sale on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

NEW BUSINESS: The Trustees reviewed the 2020 audit completed by Nisivoccia, LLC. After a discussion, J. Fidacaro made a motion to approve the audit, seconded by U. Agrawal. All Trustees approved except A. M. Mead who abstained.

OLD BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:45pm, a motion was made by Z. Bray to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A. M. Mead. The roll call was unanimous.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held at the Library on Thursday, October 21st, 2021 at 7:00 pm.