

February 15, 2024 – Raritan Public Library – Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Don Esposito in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Notice Act, chapter 231, PL 1975.

Roll Call: Present: Zachary Bray, Don Esposito, Jane Fidacaro, Jim Foohey, Laura Hnasko, Mike Pepe – Board of Ed rep; Absent: Adele Goetsch, Ann Marie Mead, Nicholas Carr - Mayor

Don led the flag salute.

Approval of the minutes: It was suggested that an addition be made to the minutes from January – add under the board reorganization that Ann Marie Mead, and Zachary Bray, were sworn in for new terms on the board; Mike Pepe was reappointed as the board of Education rep. and Nicholas Carra, mayor, is serving on the board.

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes from January with the additions mentioned above; Zach seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Bills: Zach made a motion to approve the bills, and Mike second; bills approved.

Old Business –

The library went live with the Main Alliance on February 15, 2024. We have pulled over 60 holds going to other libraries today. Historically, we've done about 1 a day.

Main updates: Staff were trained on Polaris and Aspen on January 26, February 1, 2, 8, and 9.

Adam, Brendan, and Lindsay visited Hackettstown Library on February 8, to see how they process their transit.

Brian Stevens from HMR started the architectural site assessment on January 30. The engineering assessment still needs to be scheduled.

New Business –

Michele Knepper from the BRRSD reached out to us about setting up a volunteer/internship program with the high school for students in the work study program. We will probably have two high school volunteers twice a week for two hours. We are looking to get this started in March.

Building Maintenance Responsibilities – There is a concern with the sidewalk out front where someone could trip. This issue needs to be resolved. Jim raised a question about who is responsible to fix it – the borough or the library. Don stated that it will be addressed with the engineering assessment currently being done on the library. We will get a recommendation from the engineer on how to make them safe for now until the entire assessment report comes back. Adam will contact the engineer.

Director's report:

Adam gave his report digitally. He reported on collection management, IT, Outreach/Marketing, Programming, Trainings and Meetings, Personnel. Teresa Bezek resigned on February 15, 2024, with her last day being February 25, 2024. We wish Teresa luck in her future endeavors and thank her for service to the library.

Public comments: none

Adjournment: Jane made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jim seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Next meeting: March 21, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Raritan Public Library.