



# Raritan Public Library

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54 East Somerset Street  
Raritan, New Jersey 08869  
Phone: (908) 725-0413  
Fax: (908) 725-1832

July 15th, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Raritan Public Library Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:02pm 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, L. Hnasko, A. Goetsch, J. Foohey, Mayor Zach Bray and M. Paese, Director.

Absent: U. Agrawal, and L. Sandler (BRSD rep).

D. Esposito led the flag salute.

MINUTES: A. Goetsch made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17th, 2021 Board Meeting, J. Foohey seconded the motion. All trustees approved except D. Esposito who abstained as he was absent from the previous month's meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A. Goetsch made a motion to approve the July bills, J. Fidacaro seconded and the roll call was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:08pm, L. Hnasko made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters, Z. Bray seconded and the roll call was unanimous. A motion was made by Z. Bray at 7:26pm to return to regular session, seconded by A. Goetsch and the roll call was unanimous.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- The historic re-enactment presented by Kevin Titus on July 10<sup>th</sup> of the Warren G. Harding (Knox-Porter Resolution) outdoor event was a great success. Approximately 80 people attended including Senator Kip Bateman and Senator Joseph Frelinghuysen's granddaughter, Barbara Israel. A short NJ News clip on Harding ran continuously in the Community Room and artifacts were also on display. Harding buttons were given to all attendees.  
The Raritan Historic and Cultural Committee did a wonderful job of creating a photo opportunity on the Library's front porch with life-size poster boards of Harding and members of the Frelinghuysen family.
- The Director mentioned that the Library should invest in a good PA system as more programs will likely be held outdoors. She will get prices for the next meeting.
- The gutter cleaning job will be done soon. D. Esposito mentioned that the underground ones will need to be snaked out.
- Brainfuse (the Library's on-line tutoring service) will be extended until June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. This service is made possible through ARPA: American Rescue Plan Act.

- John Basilone Parade Committee Co-chair and long-time Library patron, Pat Mastice, passed away.
- Upcoming adult programs include: Twice a month yoga sessions with Breda, an author visit by Richard Zoglin on August 12<sup>th</sup>, and a rag wreath candle holder craft class with Michele Liana on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: D. Esposito gave an update on the Library's foundation issues and reported that HMR Architects sent out a representative to measure the basement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: J. Foohey reported that the 'Friends' will be participating in the upcoming town event 'Discovering Raritan'. They will have a table at the event, promoting the Library, with fliers, bookmarks and free books. The Friends group will also be holding a Holiday Book Sale on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

NEW BUSINESS: D. Esposito asked if the Trustees would like to suspend the August Board meeting and re-meet in September. The Trustees unanimously agreed to this proposal.

OLD BUSINESS: J. Fidacaro asked about the historic sign being installed in the Library's front yard. Because of the foundation issues, this will be put on hold for now.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:47pm, a motion was made by J. Fidacaro to adjourn the meeting, seconded by J. Foohey. The roll call was unanimous.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held at the Library on Thursday, September 16th, 2021 at 7:00 pm.