

**BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY
TRUSTEE COMMITTEE BOARD MEETING**

MINUTES

June 16, 2020

Meeting Called By	BWPL Trustees
Type of Meeting	Monthly
Recording Secretary	Matthew Gerritsen
Attendees	Trustees: Connie Franciosi, Matthew Gerritsen, Pamela Hayes-Bohanan (Chair), Danielle Oliari, Beryl Domingo, Jeff Rhind Invitees: Jed Phillips (Director)
Call to Order	7:00 p.m.
Meeting Adjournment	7:33 p.m.

Meeting was held via video conference held on Zoom. The date, time and access information was posted pursuant to the relevant open meeting rules. Video record of meeting made by Director Phillips.

1. AGENDA APPROVAL:

It was moved and seconded to approve the Agenda, passed unanimously.

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Draft minutes of February 19, 2020 submitted for approval. It was moved (Franciosi), seconded (Rhind) to approve the Minutes of February 19, 2020 as submitted, passed unanimously.

3. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair mentioned that only one of the three trustees whose terms were ending will be running for re-election. Confirmed that at least five votes required for a write in candidate.

Acknowledged the challenges and leadership displayed by Director Phillips so soon after he took on the position.

Recognized issues and challenges symbolized in the black lives matter movement.

Thanked the Board for service and stated that the Library was in good hands as tenure as Chair and Trustee was ending without standing for re-election.

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

None

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Oral report made.

PPE not available for curbside service as of yet. Most patrons have been accepting of this issue. Preparations are being made for safe opening of Library as permitted by governor. Date has not been set.

Curbside pick-up will begin when possible to do so safely.

Children's room will not open with the rest of library due to difficulty in ensuring safety. Materials will be available through central desk.

Meeting rooms will not be opened due to difficulty in ensuring safety.

Movers will be shifting library fixtures as required to meet safety and spacing requirements.

Applied for and received grant to get two-year access to Beanstalk application. Will be used for summer reading program.

Web site design progressing since April, hopes to be finished by July 1st and live by the end of July. Former Bridgewater resident won logo contest.

Staff has been very cooperative regarding process and dealing with required training and stress. Have made very constructive suggestions regarding upcoming challenges and programming. Staff has limited building access.

Storytime available on you Tube Channel.

Collections are being revised and reorganization.

Approximately 650 bags of books handed out. Donations of books are being accepted. Large donation number of books can be left by door. All books require 72-hour quarantine.

Director assembling disaster preparedness binder.

Budget submitted that. Stressed to town that Library budget is minimum required by state before clawbacks are triggered. There may be waivers granted by state due to Covid issues.

Grant for solar panels being pursued. Other grants are being investigated and pursued.

Green light received to bring staff back, anticipated curb side pick-up in two weeks.

Curb-side will be extent of services until state moves pass only being able to pick up held books.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

No Committee Reports were submitted.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

None addressed.

Discussion of by-laws, powers and purposes and library assets tabled,

8. NEW BUSINESS:

Statement of Inclusiveness, attached, previously submitted. Motion to review and accept statement made (Franciosi) and seconded (Rhind). Statement discussed.

Motion to accept statement as statement of the Board passed unanimously. Statement to be placed on website and included in electronic communications from Library,

Discussion regarding potential methods in enacting the statement in Library business and policy. Inclusiveness subcommittee discussed.

Board thanked the Chair for her leadership over the last two years.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Not determined.

There being no further business the meeting was, upon motion duly made (Franciosi) and seconded (Rhind), adjourned at 7:33 PM.

(DRAFT June 5, 2020)

**A Statement from the Bridgewater Public Library Trustees
Bridgewater MA**

The Bridgewater Public Library Trustees stand with the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA) in condemning violence and racism towards Black people and all People of Color. We condemn the senseless deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and many others before them. We stand with the Black community, our hearts aching for a country so divided by racial injustice, arrogance, and hatred. It's hard not to be sad, not to be angry, and to remain hopeful.

As public officials it is our duty to be instruments of change and bring about changes for a fair and just society. And, as stated in the town charter “the library trustees ...insure that members of the Bridgewater community have the right and means to free and open access to information and ideas. The library protects intellectual freedom, promotes literacy and encourages life-long learning”. As such
~~We all need to challenge ourselves and each other to meet the moral imperative of dismantling systemic racism. The responsibility to do the necessary work of diversity, inclusion and equity belongs to all of us.~~

*e*Everyone is welcome at Bridgewater Public Library. The Library is committed to nurturing a safe space for people to connect, learn, and grow from each other. Differing beliefs and opinions are respected.

-This is a start, but we recognize there is more to do. As a Public Library organization, we will look inward and examine our practices and identify where and how we can do better and be better. And we will reach out to our diverse community to see how we can be of greater service—and take action.

