

**TOWN OF BERLIN  
BERLIN-PECK MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD  
BOARD ROOM  
WEDNESDAY JUNE 14, 2023  
6:30 PM**

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**ATTENDANCE:**

**Members Present**

Chairman Donna Moore, Vice Chairman Robert Lewis  
Elaine Borselle, Carol Welz, Karen Pagliaro, Gail Marino, Kevin Wilhelm

**Staff Present**

Carrie Tyszka

**Members Absent**

Chris Fasciano, Lilian Ulan

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Moore called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and welcomed new Board member Kevin Wilhelm.

**AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:**

None

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

Karen Pagliaro moved to approve the minutes of May 10, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Elaine Borselle. Passed unanimously.

**LIBRARIAN'S REPORT:**

Carrie Tyszka stated that Director Kim McNally was in New York City with other library directors touring the new midtown New York Public Library and attending a meeting.

Ms. Tyszka added that the most recent Director's Report incorrectly stated that the Caregiver Support group had 0 attendees but there were 11.

The Juneteenth event will be held on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with speakers, a craft, music, food, and a locally produced documentary which chronicles the story of eight black Civil War soldiers from Berlin. The Connecticut Historical Society will also be presenting artifacts from Connecticut's black history.

The Town budget was adopted and includes two new computers for the circulation desk, shelving for the Children's Department, tables for the conference room to replace the current tables that are original to the building, along with a new podium and mic system for the conference room.

The carpet project is complete with only the staff area remaining to be done and that should be completed by the end of July.

Director McNally attended the Kensington Garden Club plant sale on May 6<sup>th</sup> where seeds and Library information were distributed.

The Town Council approved part two of the Fibers to Libraries Grant in which the Library is eligible for a \$62,000 grant. Part one covered the assessment, part two will cover a new switch, fire wall, and other needed hardware as determined by the assessment.

Ms. Tyszka stated that the Friends of the Library are closer to a Memorandum of Understanding and a draft will be provided at the July meeting. Gail Marino will discuss further during Old Business.

Library programs in May were quiet due to the carpet installation although Sit and Knit met, and the Caregivers Support Group met online.

The Summer Reading Program began on June 12<sup>th</sup>. The Rubber Ducky Club for ages birth to five years will provide daily activities along with reading, the Read and Bead program for kids ages six to eleven is back again this year, and the Scratch Ticket program will be for ages 12 to 18. The Adult Summer Reading Program will allow adults to earn virtual raffle tickets to win weekly raffle prizes.

The Library is collaborating with the Town's Economic Development department on the My Hometown Tiny Art Show. Canvasses are being distributed and are due back to the library on June 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be a community art show in the library on August 1<sup>st</sup>. After the art show the canvasses will be on display in local businesses.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Moore stated that Director McNally will have an agenda for the Board retreat available at the July meeting.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Gail Marino reported that the Friends of the Library (the Friends) ended their fiscal year on May 31<sup>st</sup> with a surplus of \$981 and currently has \$7,500 in their bank account. Their budget of \$9,335 was approved at last week's meeting.

Gail stated that Director McNally had encouraged the Friends to draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) detailing the responsibilities of the Friends along with the responsibilities of the Library. The Friends approved that MOU and now the Library Board must approve it. Director McNally asked that the Board hold off on approving it until the July meeting when she will be in attendance.

One major part of the MOU states that if the Friends can no longer do the fundraising needed to support the Library's programs this gives the Library the ability to dissolve and resurrect the Friends.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Tyszka reminded the Board that there will not be a meeting in August.

Elaine Borselle inquired about the library holding author talks. Ms. Tyszka stated that local author Joe Clifford will be at the library in July, and she will be looking into other authors as well as more music options. Karen Pagliaro stated that she will contact Billy Berloni, an author that previously spoke at the library.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Gail Marino made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. Seconded by Carol Welch. Passed unanimously.

Submitted by,  
Lisa J. Bush  
Recording Secretary

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BERLIN TOWN CLERK

2023 JUN 23 AM 10:05

*Kathy Wall*

BERLIN, CT