

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
DECEMBER 14, 2021
MINUTES
Conducted by Remote Participation

Call to Order

Chair Jonathan Gates called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. and in attendance were trustees Adam Delmolino, Kathy Fennelly, Amy Hampe, Stephen Quinlan, and Joyce Radochia. Also in attendance were Andrea Nicolay, library director, and Anna Litten, assistant library director, and Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine, Deputy Town Manager/Finance Director Sandy Pooler, and Management Analyst Julie Wayman. Community member Rebecca Gruber was also in attendance. Mr. Gates shared open meeting law information as it pertains to remote meetings and read the Resolution Acknowledging Native Lands. Trustee Heather Calvin joined the meeting at 7:19.

FY22 Budget Presentation to Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine

Ms. Nicolay thanked Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine and his staff for joining the meeting. Ms. Nicolay presented the Library Services FY23 Budget Presentation. Ms. Nicolay shared data gathered during the library's strategic planning process, data on increased library use, and the library's FY23 budget request for \$139,967 (two full-time Children's Librarian entry level salaries, one part-time Teen Services Librarian entry-level salary, and \$4,649 to address the minimum wage increase). Mr. Delmolino expressed gratitude to the Town Manager's office for the support they have given to the library over the last ten years and asked the Town Manager to look on this budget presentation favorably in light of community use and appreciation for the library. Mr. Chapdelaine shared information on the Town and discussed Arlington's size, buildout, commercial tax base, and past overrides in the Town as well as Town preparations for upcoming overrides and the budget picture. Mr. Chapdelaine anticipates the next override will be sizeable as compared with past overrides. Deputy Town Manager Sandy Pooler discussed the budget uncertainty created by COVID. Mr. Chapdelaine discussed ARPA funding and eligibility for library services as well as the implications of using one-time monies for library budget requests. Ms. Nicolay discussed the role of the library in residents' lives during times of change and belt tightening. Mr. Delmolino discussed the role of the library as a community "third space" for youth and the anticipated need for these third spaces as local businesses recover from the pandemic. Ms. Nicolay discussed options for the library to support programs to address learning loss during the pandemic. Mr. Gates thanked the Town Manager's team for their time and support.

Community Time

Ms. Gruber discussed the need for teen spaces in the community.

Approval of November 9 Meeting Minutes (vote)

Ms. Hampe moved to approve, Mr. Quinlan seconded the motion. The Board held a roll call vote. Ms. Calvin voted aye, Mr. Delmolino voted aye, Mr. Gates voted aye. Ms. Fennelly and Ms. Radochia abstained.

Director's Report

Ms. Nicolay shared the Library Director's Report. Ms. Nicolay discussed the library's new hires; Tom Quinn as Head of Circulation and Steven Prochet, Local History Librarian. Ms. Nicolay also discussed the Book and Art Sale, progress for the deaccessioning project, the Staff Recognition gifts to honor pages, the revised website, the new Japanese language collections for adults, and other news from the library. Mr. Delmolino thanked library staff for supporting internet access through the hotspot program. The Board discussed the Town's use of Sora, the school-specific Overdrive product and its impact on Robbins OverDrive use.

Youth and Young Adult Commission Study Committee Update

Mr. Quinlan reported on the Youth and Adult Commission Study Committee. Mr. Quinlan shared that the committee has not yet settled on a charge.

Foundation Liaison Update

Ms. Calvin reported that the Foundation has not met since the last Trustee meeting. Ms. Calvin reported that the Foundation's appeal went out to the community.

Friends Liaison Updates

Ms. Radochia reported on the hybrid Friends meeting. Ms. Radochia shared Friends' plans for a spring "sidewalk book sale," the Friends concert series, and the popular Robbins and Fox tote bags. There was no notice of a Friends of Fox meeting.

Communications and Announcements

There were no communications or announcements.

Unanticipated Items

There were no unanticipated items.

Date of Next Meeting: January 11, 2022

Adjournment (vote)

Mr. Delmolino moved to adjourn. Ms. Calvin voted aye, Ms. Fennelly voted aye, Ms. Hampe voted aye, Mr. Quinlan voted aye, Ms. Radochia voted aye, Mr. Gates voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Materials Distributed:

- December 14, 2021 Meeting Agenda
- November 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Library Services FY23 Budget Presentation
- Library Director's November 2021 report with Circulation Report