



## BERGENFIELD LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Minutes  
September 8, 2022

### **Present**

Thomas Neats, President  
Laurie Phipps, Vice President  
Barbara Chittum, Recording Secretary  
Natalie Rivas  
Allison Ballo, Director  
Jennifer Murray, Administrative Assistant

President Neats called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

### **Notification of Public Meeting**

President Neats read the report on public notification of this meeting.

### **Minutes**

**We did not have a quorum of the Trustees present to approve the June meetings minutes. The June minutes will be formally approved at the October 13, 2022 meeting.**

### **Bills**

**We did not have a quorum of the Trustees present to approve the July and August bill lists. The July and August bill lists will be formally approved at the October 13, 2022 meeting.**

**We did not have a quorum of the Trustees present to approve the September bill list. The September bill list will be formally approved at the October 13, 2022 meeting.**

### **Public Portion**

Former Mayor Robert Rivas addressed the Board regarding the book being written about Bergenfield by Arcadia Publishing. Discussion followed.

### **Correspondence**

President Neats shared a thank you card from Library Trustee Chris Langschultz and his wife, Lauren, for their wedding gift.

### **President's Report**

President Neats reported on the concert at Bergenfield High School at which Mrs. Gallione was presented with the Lucille Tendler Award. President Neats shared he has been in communication with Ms. Ballo over the summer regarding upcoming projects, staffing and current programming at the Library.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **BCCLS and Friends**

Ms. Ballo reminded the Board that the town-wide garage sale is scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Ballo shared with the Board that BCCLS will be hosting the annual Friends breakfast at Seasons in Washington Township on October 18<sup>th</sup> and former Senator Loretta Weinberg will be the speaker.



### **Building & Grounds**

Ms. Ballo reported that the carpet vendor and furniture mover would be coming in for a walkthrough in preparation of the carpeting project. The muralist has also provided her second draft for the Children's room. A roofer will be coming in to give a repair estimate where leaking is occurring.

### **Finance Committee**

The financial summary was distributed and discussed.

### **Personnel**

Ms. Ballo reported on vacancies that have been filled and the one open vacancy left that she is currently interviewing for. Discussion followed.

### **Policy**

No report

### **Director's Report**

The Director's report was circulated by mail earlier this week. Ms. Ballo shared Montclair Library's resolution supporting their Library staff and collections, which they passed in light of current book bans and challenges across the US. Discussion followed. The Board felt no action was needed at this time. Ms. Ballo discussed a concern raised regarding Columbus Day. Discussion followed. The Board will continue to follow the policy of the Borough and the state. Ms. Ballo reported that the 2023 holiday schedule has several contracted paid holidays that fall on Saturdays or Sundays. Discussion followed. The holiday schedule will be approved at the October meeting. Ms. Phipps asked for an update regarding the pricing of passport photos the Library will offer in the future. Discussion followed.

### **Trustee Education**

President Neats shared information on the upcoming program the New Jersey Library Virtual Trustee Institute is hosting on October 8, 2022.

### **Old Business**

No report

### **New Business**

Ms. Rivas shared her ideas of various ways to raise funds for the library as well increase visibility within the community. Discussion followed.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Ms. Phipps to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Chittum*

Jennifer Murray, Recorder for  
Barbara Chittum, Recording Secretary