

James Blackstone Memorial Library
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 3, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
Location: Library Auditorium, 758 Main Street

Trustees (Present): Michelle Blank, Chad Edgar, Nancy Goldstein, Larry Greenberg, Cheryl Kaiden, Janice Kochanowski, Mary-Rita Killelea, Janice Kochanowski, Beth Law, Pat Sanders, Jack Thompson, Lisa Zwack

Trustees (Absent): Liz Ferguson, Lynette Gannon, Andy Melnick, Sue Wharfe,

Friends of the Library: Barbara Barrett

Staff: Katy McNicol, Library Director, Kathy Oxsalida, Business Manager, Tina Strell, Development Director

Yale SOM Fellow: none

Public:

Pat Sanders called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes — Janice Kochanowski moved to approve the minutes. Jack Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Guest Speaker – Dr. Judith K. Liebmann, Branford Poet Laureate shared her approach to this new role, the creation of a new Poet Council and her plans to engage with the community.

Director's Report – Katy McNicol recognized the many December events, including the Wreath Extravaganza, the Friends of the Library basket sale and the staff holiday party, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, and she recognized Tina Strell for the successful Fall Appeal.

Friends of the Library –Barbara Barrett reported that the Friends of the Library Holiday Gift Basket sale raised a record-breaking \$4,700. The Friends are also nearly fully moved into their new, bigger space.

Treasurer's Report – Janice Kochanowski reported that the current value of the investment account is \$3.985mm. The change in value reflects an increase of \$105k from December's balance.

Kathy Oxsalida presented the variance report. She stated that the variance remains positive with high contributions, development, fundraising and grants.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee—Janice Kochanowski reported that the Finance Committee did not meet in December.

NEXT Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 1 at 5:00, if necessary.

Development Committee – Nancy Goldstein will be filling in for Lynette Gannon temporarily as the Development Committee Chairperson. Tina Strell reported that the Fall Appeal has raised approximately \$47k to date.

Governance Committee – Pat Sanders reported that the committee has a draft of the revised bylaws and expects to share with the full board during the first quarter with a completion date by the end of the fiscal year, June 30.

Public Comment – none

Adjournment – Mary-Rita Killelea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Next regular meeting will be held on February 7, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Kaiden
Secretary

Note: minutes are provisional until approved by the Board of Trustees.