

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees
of the Bernards Township Library
July 20, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Emily Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Bernards Township Library Program Room A.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. SUNSHINE LAW REMINDER

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975, notice of the meeting was posted on the bulletin board in the Reception Hall of the Municipal Building, Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge and the Bernards Township Library Public Notices bulletin board; was mailed to *The Bernardsville News*, Whippany, and the *Courier News*, Somerville; was filed with the Township Clerk; and was posted on both the Township's website and the Library's website.

4. ROLL CALL

Present: Vyoma Anne, Janice Fields, Emily Johnston, Lori Kendis, Karen Kogut, MaryJane McNally, Vivian Pagoulatos, Darek Smyk, and Jane Zhang

Absent:

Also Present: Karen Vaias

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **MOTION 22-63** was made by Lori Kendis and seconded by Jane Zhang to amend the agenda to discuss hiring the new Library Director.
- **MOTION 22-64** was made by Janice Fields and seconded by Darek Smyk to go into Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss hiring the new Library Director. The motion passed unanimously.
- **MOTION 22-65** was made by Lori Kendis and seconded by Vyoma Anne to come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. The Board returned to public session at 7:46 p.m.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was public comment regarding the timing of the two recent special meetings.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION 22-66 was made by Vivian Pagoulatos and seconded by Karen Kogut to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2022 regular meeting as written. With Janice Fields and Jane Zhang abstaining, the motion passed unanimously.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Emily commented on the completion of the fascia repair.

9. IN-CHARGE SUPERVISOR'S REPORT -- KAREN VAIAS

- Karen Vaias, Supervising Librarian Reference Services, underscored the good work done by the company completing the fascia repair.
- Two defibrillators - one on each level - have been installed in the library. Staff are being trained in their use.
- Given the open Teen Services Librarian position, Karen questioned the feasibility of the Library hosting the Volunteer Fair in September.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance and Treasurer—Vivian Pagoulatos
Vivian reported that 54% of the year has passed and 63% of the budget has been spent.
- B. Friends of the Library Liaison—Jane Zhang
The next Friends meeting will be August 1.
- C. Land and Building—Vyoma Anne, Vivian Pagoulatos, and Janice Fields
No report.
- D. Legislation & Advocacy—MaryJane McNally
No report
- E. Personnel—MaryJane McNally
 - **MOTION 22-67** was made by Janice Fields and seconded by Darek Smyk to adopt a resolution acknowledging the appointment of Megan Fahrenbach, Library Assistant -- Children's Services. With a roll call vote, the motion passed 9-0-0.
 - **MOTION 22-68** was made by Lori Kendis and seconded by Vyoma Anne to adopt a resolution acknowledging the appointment of Sonal Sharma part-time Library Assistant – Adult Circulation. With a roll call vote, the motion passed 9-0-0.
 - **MOTION 22-69** was made by Jane Zhang and seconded by Karen Kogut to adopt a resolution appointing Rachel Burt full-time (40 hours/week) Library Director starting September 19, 2022 at a salary of \$110,000, with an increase of \$2,000 after an initial employment period, contingent on both her acceptance and successful completion of the required background check. With a roll call vote the motion passed 9-0-0.
- F. Policies and Procedures—Karen Kogut
No report
- G. Technology—Karen Kogut, Lori Kendis
No report

H. Township Committee Liaison—Janice Fields
Janice reported on numerous endeavors that she and the Township Committee are involved in including: National Night Out (August 4), UNICO's Mental Health Awareness initiatives, the Township's 9/11 Ceremony, and the Basking Ridge Business Alliance Food Drive.

10. OLD BUSINESS.

There was no Old Business.

11. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was public comment on the Library's use as a cooling station during hot weather.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- **MOTION 22-70** was made by Vivian Pagoulatos and seconded by Darek Smyk to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.
- The next meeting of the Bernards Township Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., August 24, 2022 at the Library.