

Lyme Public Library
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2023

Present: Judith Ulrich, Chair; Emily Hildner; Laura Mooney; Joan Motyka, Lynn Richmond; Mary Stone; Jack Sulger.

Absent: Diane Brown

Ex Officio: Melissa Fournier, Library Director

Guests: John Kiker, Selectman. From the Friends: Deborah Giaconia, President; Anna James, Treasurer; and Holly Rubino, programming chair.

1. Call to order – Judy Ulrich called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

2. Remarks by visitors – None

3. Approval of prior meeting minutes – Emily Hildner made a motion to approve the minutes of January 25, 2023, which was seconded by Laura Mooney. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. Friends President’s Report:

- a. **Evaluation form** – Deborah Giaconia announced that the Friends are providing a survey form to attendees at programs they sponsor. A copy of the form was passed around.
- b. **Programming** – Deb also noted that attendance at programs remains strong. In particular, the “Sweet Spot” continues to be popular. This is a free event where anyone is welcome to enjoy coffee and baked goods, and to see old, and make new, friends. Donations are voluntary: \$170 has been given so far.
- c. **Meetings** – The next meeting of the Friends is March 16, 2023. All are invited.

5. Librarian Director’s Report:

- a. Melissa Fournier gave a PowerPoint presentation on a course she attended entitled “Library Boards Crash Course: How to Create and Maintain Successful Board Relations.” She spoke about the importance of strategic planning. She encouraged board members to attend an online course entitled “Resisting Book Bans.”
- b. **Monthly Statistics** – Melissa noted that Library attendance and circulation continues to increase.
- c. **Library Programs** – In January, 8 adult programs were attended by 113 people, and 7 children’s programs had an attendance of 70. Upcoming programs can be found on the Library’s website.

6. Old Business: Further update on “Sweet Spot Café” – Laura Mooney noted that attendance at the program has averaged around 30 with a good mix of “regulars” and new participants.

7. New Business

- a. **Election of Officers** – Mary Stone made a motion to nominate Joan Motyka as Secretary, which was seconded by Emily Hildner. Jack Sulger made a motion to nominate Laura Mooney as Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Joan Motyka. There were no other nominations. A written ballot was taken and both candidates were elected to their new positions.
- b. **Strategic Plan Revision** – Lynn Richmond led a discussion on the beginning phases of refreshing our 2020 Strategic Plan. She then led a discussion about an “Environmental Scan” of what has changed in the world, our community, and the role of the libraries in the past 3 years.

11. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Sulger, Secretary *pro tem*

Next Meeting: March 22, 2023 at 5:00pm.