

Lyme Public Library Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes August 30, 2023

Present: Judith Ulrich, chair; Laura Mooney, vice chair; Joan Motyka, secretary; John Kiker, Lynn Richmond, Diane Brown, Ralph Lewis, Michael James

Ex-Officio: Melissa Fournier, Library Director

Guest: Jacqueline Jaffe, president of the Lyme Library Foundation

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Judith Ulrich called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes for June 2023 and July 2023:** Lynn made a motion to approve, seconded by John, and the minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.
3. **Director's Reports:** In July, year over year, total print and digital circulation increased, as did computer and meeting room use. The number of children's programs increased to 9, from 5, while attendance rose sharply to 170 from 16. The number of adult programs for the month increased to 10, from 7, and attendance rose to 137 from 110 a year earlier. Attendance at the library was 1,330 for July, up from 1,068 a year earlier. Melissa reported that commissioners of the Connecticut State Library would like the library to rewrite its collection development policy to add more detail and that she would submit a revised policy to the board at the September meeting. She also reported that the changeover to the LIONS system is underway. She further reported that a staff member will be taking a three-month family leave, expected to begin after the new year, and she asked for board support that the leave be a paid leave, without the employee having to use sick and vacation time. Following discussion there was unanimous board support for that proposal, which must now go to the town.
4. **Report of the Friends:** None. Judy encouraged support for the Friends' upcoming Book Sale on Sept. 8 and 9 and said there were volunteer opportunities for the event.
5. **Report by Foundation president:** Jacqueline Jaffe said only two tickets remained for the Foundation's annual fundraiser, *Jersey Boys*, at the Ivoryton Playhouse Aug. 31. She reported 16 sponsors, a significant number.
6. **Old Business:** Nominations for the Nominating Committee. Judy nominated John, Joan and Michael, with the goal of proposing a new slate of officers (chair, vice chair and secretary). Discussion was also held concerning a revision of the bylaws and Judy, Laura, Lynn and Joan agreed to work on this, with input from Michael.
7. **Adjournment:** 11:40 a.m.
8. **Board retreat.** The board had a working lunch and point-by-point discussion of the proposals for a new strategic plan. This was led and notated by John, with significant development and input from Lynn. Melissa offered action plans for the board to study before the next meeting in support of the discussed goals. The retreat ended at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan Motyka, Secretary of the Board of Lyme Public Library.