

Marlborough Public Library Board of Trustees  
Meeting Minutes  
April 5, 2022  
Meeting held at the Walker Building

The meeting was called to order by Fred Haas at 7:06 p.m.

Board members attending:

Tom Abel  
Karen Bento  
Nena Bloomquist  
Bill Brewin  
Fred Haas  
Samantha Khosla  
Rustin Kyle  
Janice Merk  
Robyn Ripley

Also attending: Margaret Cardello, Library Director

Documents reviewed/referenced:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes from March 1, 2022 meeting
3. Trust Fund/State Aid Reports for March 2022
4. Director's Report
5. Scholarship Essay Contest submissions
6. Community Bulletin Board Policy
7. Policy #2-1: Freedom to Read Statement
8. Policy #2-2: Library Bill of Rights
9. Policy #2-3: Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights
10. Policy #2-4: Confidentiality of Library Records

Proceedings:

1. **Minutes:** A motion (Bloomquist, Kyle) to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2022 meeting was passed.
2. **Trust Fund Reports:** A motion (Abel, Bloomquist) to approve the Trust Fund for March 2022 reports was passed.

### **3. Director's Report:**

- Margaret updated the Trustees about the construction project. The concrete wall formation, which will continue this month, is going well. The condition of the terra cotta decorative elements over the front entrance is being evaluated to see how extensive the restoration process will be for this portion of the Carnegie.
- The library expansion will reach a big project milestone in May, when the steel goes up. Current projections are that the last steel beam will be put in place in mid-June. A topping off ceremony is being tentatively scheduled for mid-June.
- Frequent posting of photographs and updates about the expansion project on Facebook, as well as in the Monthly Digest newsletter, have helped keep the community informed of the progress that is being made, and has helped increase interest.
- Margaret provided the Trustees with a revised Community Bulletin Board policy, as well as the ALA materials she edited to include MPL policies “for local interpretations of the principles contained in these documents.”
- Margaret updated the Trustees about staffing issues, including the return of a staff member who accepted the position of Cataloger/Head of Technical Services. The two open PT Reference positions have also been filled.
- Tom Abel, Fred Haas, and Margaret met with the Mayor and his finance team to review the FY23 budget request. On March 30 Margaret received feedback that \$40,000 from the initial request needed to be cut. To make this happen, \$31,815 was cut from library materials, \$2,000 was cut from library supplies, and \$6,185 was cut from the Library Page line which represents one position.
- AMSA student, Nico Solimine, interviewed Margaret about the library renovation project. Her article will be published in their school newspaper, and will be a great piece for the community to read.
- On April 28, Annie Glater, Erin Bassler, and Margaret will be participating in the 2022 Scholar Bee to benefit the Dollars for Scholars Program. Their team's name will be “Lore Keepers.”

### **4. Marlborough Public Library Foundation:**

- Janice Merk reported that Alison Grice's donation has received a lot of great coverage, and many positive comments and feedback online.
- People have been extremely responsive to the Facebook and social media posts about the two, beautiful fireplaces in the Carnegie Building that were uncovered during the renovation. The Facebook post reached over 10,000 people and was shared more than 25 times.

- The Foundation's page on the MPL website continues to be updated. They are working on making it easier for people to make donations directly online. Eventually, donor names and what they've donated will be posted on the website.

#### **5. Old Business:**

- Bill Keyles will be meeting with the Mayor at the end of the month to update him on the progress of the renovation.
- Margaret couldn't find a new posting policy, but reviewed the current Community Bulletin Board Policy.
- A motion (Ripley, Merk) to approve Policy #2-1: Freedom to Read Statement; Policy #2-2: Library Bill of Rights; Policy #2-3: Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights; Policy #2-4: Confidentiality of Library Records; and the Community Bulletin Board Policy was passed.

#### **6. New Business:**

- Margaret and the Trustees discussed possible reasons why fewer MPL Trustees Scholarship applicants submitted essays this year as compared to years in the past, even though it was publicized.
- A motion (Abel, Khosla) to award a single scholarship to the recipient of the MPL Trustees Scholarship, was passed.
- A motion (Abel, Ripley) to award a \$1,500 scholarship to the recipient of the MPL Trustees Scholarship, was passed.
- A motion (Bloomquist, Brewin) to award the MPL Trustees Scholarship to applicant #1, was passed.

7. **Adjournment:** A motion (Kyle,Ripley) to adjourn was passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Karen Bento