



EAST LONGMEADOW PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes for May 18, 2022

The East Longmeadow Board of Library Trustees held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at the East Longmeadow Public Library.

Trustees present were Chair David Boucher, Vice Chair Cynthia MacNaught, Secretary Christina Cooper, trustees Nancy O'Connor, Amy Johnson, and Amy Pawle, as well as the board's Student Trustee member Julia Boucher. Also present was Don Maki, Executive Director at ELCAT for the Town of East Longmeadow, to video record the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair David Boucher called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

III. MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for the March 16, 2022 meeting needed approval. Cynthia McNaught motioned to accept the minutes Nancy O'Connor seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Amy Pawle let the board know that she will have to resign from her position with the board after our next meeting.

The trustees discussed the resignation in March of former Library Director Layla Johnston and the search for a new director. The job was posted and 4 candidates were interviewed; however, the candidate the town wished to hire had to withdraw her application. The search is starting again, and the trustees encouraged all members to get the word out to any qualified applicants. The library hopes to find someone who will be a team-builder with staff, and perform outreach to strengthen our ties to other community organizations.

In the interim, Children's Librarian Michelle Lemire and Cataloguer Kristen Savaria have agreed to perform the duties of Co-Acting Director for the library. We appreciate their help in keeping the library running smoothly during this time of change.

VII. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Julia Boucher reported that on Wednesday, May 11th the Teen Advisory Board had a meeting. This was the last meeting of the school year, and the TAB will continue in the fall.

They discussed the Summer Reading Program, Tech help drop-in (which is a community service opportunity for all high schoolers), Tween Advisory Board (meets on Mondays), the Book Club (continuing through the summer), and the Writing Club (continuing through the summer on Saturdays).

Some new ideas discussed were more community service opportunities for high schoolers like tutoring; having classes about “adulthood” things like going to the RMV for your permit/license, passports, taxes, jobs, etc.; getting AP Prep Books in the library; and the possibility of a photography club.

The Teen Book Club chose Scythe by Neil Shusterman for their next book club meeting on June 1st from 4-5 pm.

VIII. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY REPORT

The Friends of the East Longmeadow Library Annual Meeting was held Monday, May 2 at 7 pm in the library’s Community Room.

Trustee David Boucher was present to inform the Friends of the search for the new library director.

David Boucher and Adult Librarian Maura Mara brought information from ATC Audio Video Lighting and Valley Communication Systems about the new audio/visual system. ATC’s proposal is \$8,220 and Valley Communications’ is \$9,587. The library staff would like to have both systems, one of which is mobile, but as this cost is significantly higher than what was first proposed, the Friends asked Maura to determine exact details and costs so the Friends can make a prudent decision.

The Friends approved the requests from the library for funding for this year’s summer reading programs for all four departments: Children, Tweens, Teens, and Adult, voting unanimously in favor of providing \$17,800.

Scholarship winners Isabella Berrios and Allison Mendrala have been invited to attend the next Friends meeting on June 6th.

Drawings for the Spring Baskets Extravaganza took place on May 4th and all proceeds have been set aside to help purchase the new audio/visual system for the Community Room.

The Friends currently have 239 members. Their next meeting will take place on Monday, June 6th in the Community Room.

Please see the May 2 report of the FOEPL for more information.

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Library Trustees will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 6 pm at the library. Chair David Boucher will not be able to attend.

X. ADJOURN

Cynthia McNaught made a motion to adjourn. Amy Pawle seconded, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Cooper, Secretary

*www.eastlongmeadowlibrary.org
60 Center Square, Suite 2
East Longmeadow, MA 01028*

413-525-5400 ext. 1500