

**DIGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MINUTES**  
**June 3, 2021**  
**6:30 PM**

*Due to the increasing concern surrounding the Coronavirus pandemic, this meeting was open to the public through the Zoom Conferencing platform. A recording of the meeting was aired on Comcast Local TV 9 and posted on the Town of Dighton YouTube Channel.*

Call to Order Trustee Meeting Started at 6:30.

This was a hybrid meeting with public participation through with Zoom. Ron O'Connor, Board of Trustees Chair formally welcomed newly elected library Trustee Rita Araujo to the board.

Roll Call – In person participants: Ron O'Connor, Chair; EveMarie Cabral, trustee; Rita Araujo, trustee; Jocelyn Tavares, library director.

Members of the public present participating by Zoom: Zach Lapointe, Chair of the Friends of the Dighton Public Library, Michael Mullen, Dighton Town Administrator, Ann Meitzen, member of the Friends of the Dighton Public Library.

With a virtual meeting, a roll call vote should be taken, so that it is absolutely clear what the outcome of the vote is. The meeting must be completely audible. The meeting is recorded.

1

Eve moved to approve the minutes of March 18 and April 1, 2021 minutes. Ron seconded. No further discussion.

EveMarie Cabral: Aye

Ron O'Connor: Aye.

Rita Araujo: Abstained

Motion carried. Minutes of March 18 and April 1, 2021 meetings are approved.

Old Business

- Library Operations: Jocelyn's report is focused on the building.
  - She attended a Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) meeting that confirmed that hours open requirement is in effect starting Labor Day. Libraries have the summer to prepare.
  - Jocelyn has attended the Facilities Study Meeting, Town Administrator Mullen is a member, in addition to the Building Inspector, Fire Chief, and Mr. Maguy from the Police Station Building Committee and Mr. Rendon from the Capital Outlay Committee.
  - Library options were discussed at length: what can happen at 395 Main Street, if the building continues as library use and what it means to library operations once ADA compliance kicks in at this location with the lower floor closed.
  - There is also the option of leasing private space.
  - An architect is evaluating the space to put a bid on the work on the building. He has experience in working on historic spaces in other municipalities.
  - Mr. Mullen reiterated his support of working toward achieving accreditation for the library at Labor Day deadline. He acknowledged both the short term and long term issues facing the library.
  - The Building Committee will be making their recommendation to the Board of Selectmen at the June 9 meeting. They will advise leasing, with the procurement process in place or looking at town owned buildings to see if the library can be housed in the short-term.

## New Business

- Mr. Mullen reaffirmed the September deadline for short-term opportunities and looking at all options on the table. Architect and plans in-house work to make things happen at the library.
- New York Times sent a bill to the library for the same price as last year and not the price they tried to charge us at renewal.
- Discussed statistics. It was this time last year when curbside was beginning, so that is reflected in the numbers.
  - Regarding use: Staff have been trying to work with browsers in readers advisory to help them pick out books and homeschool families to maintain our curbside patrons. Patrons who were accustomed to ordering their items and picking up their items seem to be fine with curbside pickup. Our browsers and youth services are hurt by not being allowed in the building.
  - Different libraries had different opening experiences dependent on local variables and factors. There is industry guidance helping with decision making, but there is a lot of local consideration with decision making for individual libraries on operations.
  - Regarding Overdrive, investment in materials goes up and usage goes up. Overdrive has purchased a lot of Recorded media streaming content: Great Courses, Indieflix, Qello, and Universal Class. Continue with Great Courses and Universal Class. Some Acorn titles are available on Hoopla.
- Payment Authorization Form is required by the town. Trustees designate who is authorized to sign bills and payroll. The whole board has been authorized in the past. The form designates who is allowed to sign and that the board agrees to it. The entire board is authorized.
- The town is keeping an eye on the Governor's order on public meetings and the June 15 end of emergency. The selectmen in April voted to allow remote meetings for town board and committees. Each board needs to independently adopt a remote or hybrid meeting policy.
  - Under the Attorney General's regulations, 940 CMR 29.10, the Dighton Public Library Board of Trustees is seeking to allow remote participation in certain circumstances once the Governor's Executive Order suspending the Open Meeting Law requiring meetings be conducted in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public is lifted.

Rita Araujo moved that the Dighton Public Library Board of Trustees adopt the provisions under 940 CMR 29.10 that would allow the board to conduct meetings with remote participation under certain circumstances. Eve Cabral seconded.

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Eve Cabral: Aye

Rita Araujo: Aye

Motion passes unanimously.

- Jocelyn recapped meeting with Congressman Auchincloss, organized by Jonathan Gray.
- Lorie will be doing outreach at town parks in partnership with Parks & Recreation Department. She is bringing library materials for families to browse directly at the park. She has created a passport book to encourage families to visit each location over the summer. There is a specific schedule for each location, like a bookmobile schedule. Looking to order a banner for visibility. Equipment available for mobile checkout. She has a volunteer to help her with this.
- Jocelyn has concerns about messaging about the building issues.

- Emergency Connectivity Fund and the MBLC Hotspot Program are two federal programs that we can use to get equipment and hotspots to help our patrons with the gap in Internet we have been unable to provide for them. Jocelyn plans to apply for these programs.

#### Questions/Input Friends

- Zach Lapointe gave an update for the Trustees:
- Zach discussed the Small Town Big Heart sign fundraiser with the Dighton Lions. The profit was \$2,719.65 for the Friends. The also profited the same. It was a well-received fundraiser, especially since the Taste of Dighton has been cancelled. 1,508 signs were sold. It wasn't continued only because there was talk that other groups wanted to do it. Special thanks to Karen Gannon and Brenda Herbeck from the Friends and Debbie Howland from the Lions.
- Candidates Night was held virtually on March 30, with largest audience of 118 between Zoom and YouTube. Zach felt it was more challenging this way than in person.
- The Friends voted to purchase to Heritage Museum pass and the House of Seven Gables. The Friends opted not to purchase the Children's Museum in Fall River due to the cost and restrictions.
- The Friends are participating in the participating at the Parks and Recreation outreach concert on July 10.
- The Friends voted to purchase the Cricut machine for the library.

#### Personnel

#### Correspondence

#### Upcoming Programs

- Jocelyn is trying to wrap up the CARES grant programming. New England Aquarium programming scheduling is in process. A bird watching kit has been put together.
- Lorie has the flying dogs program for summer reading – the Tails and Tales theme.
- Southcoast Six libraries also have their own passport program for the summer.

Adjournment Eve moved to adjourn the meeting. Rita seconded.

Ron O'Connor: Aye

Eve Cabral: Aye

Rita Araujo: Aye

Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:32