

**Mount Laurel Library  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of Regular Meeting via Zoom  
November 17, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:03 P.M.

**FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION:** Provided by Ms. Sawyer

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW STATEMENT:**

Ms. Sawyer stated that this meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was provided by way of the Burlington County Times, the Courier Post, and the Mount Laurel Sun, and it was posted in the library and on its website.

**ROLL CALL:**

Gina Acerbo – present  
Beth Demaio - present  
Noreen Duffey - present  
Susan Fortuna – present  
Nick Moustakas – present  
Fredda Sacharow – present  
McKenna Samson - *absent*  
Stephanie Sawyer – present  
Walter Stridick – *absent*

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Ed Campbell, Esq.  
Becky Boydston  
Gayle McCormick

**APPROVAL of MINUTES:**

Approval of October 20, 2021 minutes of meeting:  
Motion: Ms. Fortuna  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Sacharow  
All in Favor

**APPROVAL of BILL LIST and BILL LIST ADDENDUM:**

Motion: Ms. Duffey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Moustakas  
Roll Call: 7 yes votes

## **REPORT FROM LIBRARY STAFF:**

### **Outdoor Pavilion**

Ms. Boydston said that plans for the new outdoor pavilion are moving along with the expectation that work can be completed in the spring.

### **Friends October Book Sale**

At the conclusion of their first book sale in many months, the Friends of the Library reported more than \$8,500.00 was raised in October -- a record amount.

### **Books for Kids**

The library's annual Books for Kids collection drive has begun. A display is set up near the library entrance with instructions for cash donations or for the purchase of books on our Amazon wish list. Members of the Rotary Club of Mount Laurel will once again prepare holiday gift baskets in which they will incorporate age-appropriate donated books for children in each recipient family.

### **Sale of Surplus Goods**

After last month's approval for the sale of surplus and outdated equipment on GovDeals, items listed for auction garnered about \$3,500.00. There were several computers which are outdated by our standards but an organization who refurbishes them for use in countries where technology is lagging or totally absent was happy to get those computers for a bargain price.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Nothing to discuss.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Refugees**

Ms. Sacharow mentioned that there are 8,000 to 10,000 refugees currently housed at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix which is located not far from the library. She opened for discussion the possibility of providing some form of assistance or resources to those people who are living in difficult circumstances. For instance, Ms. Sacharow is working with the office of Congressional Representative Andy Kim to collect coats for distribution to the refugees. Ms. Boydston will speak with a representative of the Friends about the possibility of donating some of the books that they collect. Other Trustees said they would consider ways to help.

### **Nominating Committee**

Ms. Boydston asked if any Board Trustee would volunteer to serve as the Nominating Committee Chair for the selection of Board officers to be officially nominated and sworn in early next year. Mr. Moustakas requested contact information for other Trustees so that he may speak with them about the

matter. A meeting of Trustees is allowed outside of monthly Board meetings provided that a quorum is not met.

**RESOLUTION 2021-031: 2022 Budget**

According to Ms. Boydston, the proposed 2022 Budget includes an increase in township appropriations as well as state aid. It will not be necessary to cut any budget lines, even if no projected revenue is included for library fines. Ms. Duffey is pleased that the budget includes a 2% salary increase for full-time library employees as well as an hourly increase for most part-time staff members.

Motion: Ms. Duffey  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Fortuna  
Roll Call: 7 yes votes

**RESOLUTION 2021-032: Authorization to Sell Surplus on Discover Books**

This is a continuation of periodic efforts to remove outdated and otherwise unusable materials including books and DVDs from the library's collection since the last approval.

Motion to approve: Ms. Acerbo  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Duffey  
Roll Call: 7 yes votes

**Board and Staff Changes**

Ms. Boydston announced that this meeting would likely be the last for Trustee Gina Acerbo since she will likely be unable to attend the December meeting and her term is ending. In addition, this meeting will be the last for Secretary Designate Gayle McCormick inasmuch as she has accepted an offer to work in the Mount Laurel Township Finance Office. She will remain responsible for preparing the library's bill lists each month but will not attend Board meetings.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public in attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn at 6:32 PM: Mr. Moustakas  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Ms. Duffey  
All in favor