

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12, 2024, MEETING
OF
THE BERNARDSVILLE LIBRARY FOUNDATION, INC.

The Board of Trustees of the Bernardsville Library Foundation, Inc. meeting was held in person at the Bernardsville Library on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, beginning at 6:02 PM in the Community Room.

The following trustees attended the meeting: Patrice Cummings, Chair; Jamie Bertoni; Karen Brodsky; Debbie Heimerl; Roni Larini; Justin Lynch; Colleen Mason; Michael Myers; and Anne Reilly. Absent Trustees were Shikha Mayer; Chieko McClester, and Amiee Watts. Friends of the Bernardsville Library Representative Nancy Verduin and Bernardsville Library Director Fran Daley were present.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Cummings called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM The Bernardsville Library Foundation Trustees and visitors were warmly welcomed to the meeting.

2. MINUTES OCTOBER 8, 2024

The October 8, 2024, Minutes were emailed to the Trustees before the October 8, 2024, meeting. Two changes were made to the October Minutes; the Cycle Bar Fundraiser date was amended to Sunday, January 12, 2025, and under the Director's Report, the 15% discounted tickets are for the Shakespeare Theater of NJ, not Shakespeare in the Park. Secretary Reilly moved that the minutes be adopted as amended. Ms.

Bertoni seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion or requests for changes to the October 8, 2024, Minutes, a vote was conducted, and the October 8, 2024, Minutes were approved as amended.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The October 2024 Monthly Financial Reports were emailed to the Trustees before the November 12, 2024, meeting. Treasurer Michael Myers reviewed the reports. Of note, the BLF Endowment fund has surpassed the \$800,000.00 mark. Treasurer Myers recommends that \$13,000.00 be moved from the Raffle Account to the short-term investment account pending approval from BLF Accountant J. Chan. Treasurer Myers moved that the October 2024 Monthly Financial Reports be approved as written. Ms. Heimerl seconded the motion. Hearing no questions or discussion, a roll call vote was conducted, and the October 2024 Monthly Financial Reports were approved unanimously without abstentions.

4. LIAISONS AND VISITORS

Ms. Verduin, Secretary of the Bernardsville Library Board of Trustees and President of the Friends of the Library, updated the Trustees on the Board and Friends of the Library activities and events. Ms. Verduin reported the Bernardsville Library Board is currently working on the 2025 Library budget. The Friends of the Library are sending their fundraising appeal letter this week. October saw a very successful National Friends of the Library Week and the Mini Golf Event and fundraiser planning is underway.

5. BERNARDSVILLE LIBRARY UPDATE - DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Daley reported that October was a busy month for Library events, including National Friends of the Library Week, Tai Chi, Wine Tasting, and more. Ms. Daley updated the Trustees on staffing changes and sadly announced the retirement of Marianne Gomez, known as "Mrs. G." Events celebrating Mrs. G are

being planned. Staff development in October included training on the new AED and updates to MAIN. Ms. Daley then showed pictures of some of the furniture purchased to update the Library. A Holiday Book drive for the MLK Center in Bridgewater will be held in November. Books should be new or gently used for ages 5-13. The Bernards High School Madrigals will be performing their wonderful annual concert at the library on Wednesday, December 11 at 3PM. All are welcome.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

Mr. Lynch reported that a copy of the Corporate Sponsorship program will be sent to Mr. Lloyd Sacks at Peapack Gladstone Bank. Mr. Sacks will facilitate a meeting with the individuals involved in corporate sponsorship. Ms. Daley shared that Kyle from PNC Bank in Bernardsville may be interested to speaking with the Foundation about the Corporate Sponsorship Program. Ms. Cummings will follow up with Ms. Daley to get more information on this.

B. DONOR DEVELOPMENT

Chair Cummings announced the purchase of a four-month trial subscription to the Bloomerang Donor Search Prospecting Suite. It was noted by Trustee Karen Brodsky, that the Donor Prospecting Suite from Bloomerang, which had also been purchased by the Library of the Chathams, has not proved to be as advantageous as they had hoped. Library Director Daley commented that the Bernardsville Library has access to Candid's Database search engine and proposed that Chair Cummings and she plan a Field Trip to check this out. Ms. Cummings will follow up with Ms. Daley to get a date on the calendar.

C. EVENTS - Cycle Bar Fundraiser

The date of the event is Sunday January, 12, 2025. Ms. Bertoni agreed to help co-chair the Cycle Bar Fundraising event with Ms. Mason. Social Media/PR will be done by Ms. Watts; the website will be updated by Ms. McClester; and Ms. Daley will post on the Library website and send out information in the newsletter. Bloomerang must be able to accept payments/donations for the event.

D. FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasure Myers presented and led a discussion of the Budget for 2025. The Budget will be voted on in the December Meeting.

E. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

A revised Revenue Cash Model was presented to the Trustees by Ms. Bertoni. A brief discussion followed

F. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.

The committee is in search of members to fill the following roles: photographer, lawyer, and real estate agent. The committee also needs a Trustee to manage the databases, send acknowledgments, write grants, and update the BLF Trustee Manual.

G. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The slate of Officers will be presented at the December Meeting.

H. PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Please see the attached letter to the editor that appeared in the Bernardsville News.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 10, 2024, in the Community Room, Storytime Room or Quite Room, depending on availability at 06:30 p. m.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Cummings thanked the BLF Trustees and the Library Staff for their hard work. Secretary Reilly adjourned the meeting at 06:59 PM and invited those who could, to the Claremont Tavern for a social gathering.