

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2025 MEETING OF THE BERNARDSVILLE LIBRARY FOUNDATION, INC.

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Bernardsville Library Foundation, Inc. was held via zoom on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, beginning at 6:31 p.m.

The following trustees were in attendance: Patrice Cummings, Chair; Jamie Bertoni; Madelyn English; Debbie Heimerl; Roni Larini; Justin Lynch; Colleen Mason; Shikha Mayer; and Anne Reilly. Treasurer Michael Myers was absent. Guests included Ms. Fran Daley, Library Director, and Ms. Carolyn Duff, Friends of the Library representative.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Cummings called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The Bernardsville Library Foundation Trustees and visitors were warmly welcomed to the zoom meeting.

2. MINUTES FEBRUARY 11, 2025 MEETING

The February 11, 2025, minutes were emailed to the Trustees before the March 11, 2025, meeting. Secretary Reilly moved that the minutes be approved as written and Ms. Larini seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion, a vote was conducted and the Minutes of the February 11, 2025 Foundation meeting were approved unanimously. Jamie Bertoni and Colleen Mason abstained from the vote.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The February Monthly Financial documents were sent to the trustees prior to the March 11, 2025 BLF Meeting. Chair Cummings explained the line items on the new Statement of Financial Position.

Ms. Heimerl moved that the February Monthly Financial documents be approved as presented. Ms. Bertoni seconded the motion. Hearing no further discussion, a roll call vote was conducted and the February 2025 Financial Reports were approved as presented unanimously.

4. BERNARDSVILLE LIBRARY UPDATE - DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Fran Daley, Library Director, presented a Library Update. Ms. Daley presented The 2024 Year in Review, updates on the renovations/re-imaging of the Library, and updates on the Strategic Plan to the Bernardsville Borough Council Meeting on February 24, 2025. Ms. Daley thanked the trustees that were able to join the Council meeting in person or via zoom. Chair Cummings requested that the slide show that was presented at the Bernardsville Borough Council meeting be forwarded to the trustees so that updated information can be included in the Corporate Sponsor flyer. Ms. Daley reported that depending on funding from the Borough the goal is to return the library hours to the pre-covid hours.

5. LIAISONS & VISITORS

Bernardsville Library Board of Trustees.

Mr. Re was unable to attend the BLF meeting but sent a written report that was read by Chair Cummings. The February Bernardsville Library Board of Trustees meeting was focused on the budget. The board expects to vote on the final budget in April 2025.

Friends of the Bernardsville Library

Ms. Duffy reported that the Friends of the Library took the month of March off as is their custom and will resume activities in April.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. 2025 Annual Appeal Letter

Chair Cummings reported the Annual Appeal Letter will go out May 1, 2025. The return response card is being reviewed. Ms. Heimerl and Ms. Mayer will meet in person to review. They will also discuss whether they should again purchase a mailing list or if they can use the same list as last year.

B. Corporate Sponsorship

Mr. Lynch submitted the forms to Shoprite and used Mayor Cantose as a referral. Mr. Lynch requested Ms. Daley to update the corporate sponsorship flyer with the new Library statics that were presented at the recent Borough Council meeting.

C. Donor Development

Chair Cummings is reaching out to donor's requesting funds to match the Library Giving Day appeal. So far, no one has turned her down.

D. Events

Library Giving Day is Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Library Giving Day is peer to peer fundraising and Chair Cummings would like all trustees to participate in Library Giving Day by texting and emailing an appeal to friends and family.

E. Finance Committee

Chair Cummings reported that the Finance Committee met on March 5, 2025 to resolve the Statement of Financial Position as reported earlier in the Treasurer's Report.

F. Investment Committee

Ms. Bertoni reported that the Investment Committee will begin a review and update of the Investment Policy.

G. Membership Committee.

Chair Cummings announced that Ms. Brodsky had to resign from the Bernardsville Library Foundation due to a conflict of interest. She will continue to help with Donor Development as she is able. Chair Cummings related that the Bernardsville Library Foundation is in real need of trustees and volunteers to help with publicity, database management, acknowledgements, grants, trustee manual and the Foundation could use a lawyer and real estate agent.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 6:30 p. m. in the Community Room.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Chair Cummings thanked the BLF Trustees and the Library Staff for their hard work. Secretary Reilly adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p. m.

From: "Monique Seibert" <mhseibert1@gmail.com>
Sent: 12/21/24 10:40 AM
To: foundation@bernardsvillelibrary.org
Subject: Gift

Dear Patrice and Library Foundation Team,

We had made a gift earlier this month in the amount of \$5,000. I received a thank you letter that outlined all of the library programs for our community. I went online and saw other gatherings - for meditation, chemistry, in addition to mahjong 2x a month. It is truly serving our community. I heard from our daughter-in-law that her mother in Carmel, Indiana takes a bird watching class through the library. Three of our children in various towns have ebook privileges at their libraries.

There are endless possibilities to reach out and draw in when you have a welcoming building in a town where residents can gather. We have made an additional gift of \$10,000 to support the initiatives of the library. Our best to Joan Contess, whom I see is still involved with the library foundation.

Best,

Monique Seibert

