

BROOKLYN TOWN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
132ND ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 3, 2025

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Wendy Harrington at 7:35 PM. Present were: Wendy Harrington, Deneen Azzolino, Ken Dykstra, Martha Ennis, Amy Clark, Jane Sipila, Beverly Spink, Kerri Osborne, Desiree Burlingame, Renee Messier, Patricia Ball, Lisa Burbank, Joan Duignan, Anne Hunter, Marie Dusseault, Khela McGann, Melody Ingalls, Linda L. Mark, Ailla Wasstrom-Evans, Krystal Shaw, Amy Landis, Ashley Ladero, and Joanne Lantry. Excused Absences: Alexandra Smith, Lorraine McLeish, Hope Barton, Diane Wimmer, and Denise Auger.

Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes were amended to include an omission in the last paragraph of the Library Director's Report by adding the words "The Writer's Workshop has a core group of 5, not counting staff." Motion was made by Beverly Spink and seconded by Martha Ennis to accept the minutes as amended. So Voted.

Treasurer's Report: Renee Messier resigned as treasurer as of this meeting and new treasurer Patricia Ball was introduced. Renee presented a Profit & Loss Statement for July 2024 through June 2025 showing total income of \$163,341.22, total expenses of \$144,303.60 for a net income of \$19,037.62 plus interest income of \$8,268.75 for a total net income of \$27,306.37. Balance Sheet presented as of June 30, 2025 showed total assets of \$307,858.88, total liabilities of \$795.37 plus equity of \$307,063.51 to make total of liabilities and equity of \$307,858.88. Profit & Loss Statement for July 1 through November 3, 2025 showed total income of \$78,613.51, total expenses of \$55,421.47 for net income of \$23,192.04 plus interest of \$1,911.70 for a net income of \$25,103.74. Renee mentioned that we switched to ADP for payroll services and they will also do our quarterly reports and W-2s. We will now have the additional expense of Worker's Compensation insurance for around \$300 a year. Our employees are classified as clerical which makes it less expensive. Kerri Osborne suggested that in the future we should have a report showing budget vs. actual to see where we underspend. Motion was made by Deneen Azzolino and seconded by Jane Sipila to accept the treasurer's reports. So Voted.

Library Director's Report: Lisa Burbank gave her report on circulation and materials data for July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024 vs. July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025. Book circulation increased from 7,769 to 8,723. Circulation of other library materials decreased from 2,621 to 1,345 because Brooklyn Summer Recreation does not borrow books from us; they own the books formerly borrowed. Overall total material circulation decreased from 10,390 to 10,068. Our present book collection decreased from 23,603 to 20,687. Our CD collection increased from 259 to 296. Our total DVD collection increased from 451 to 534. Registered barcoded borrower cards increased from 3,864 to 4,007. The total number of items in the entire library collection decreased from 24,371 to 21,517. She spoke of the increase in participants for the Summer Reading Program with the addition of adults to it for a total of 238 participants. The E. Howard Gallery Clock that had not run for 6 decades was repaired and is again ticking.

We continue to hold the programs reported last year.

Motion made by Joanne Lantry and seconded by Linda Mark to accept the Library Director's Report. So Voted.

Vote to Remain a Free Public Library: Motion made by Martha Ennis and seconded by Jane Sipila to remain a free public library for another year. So Voted.

President's Report: President Harrington spoke of library milestones the past year. The Summer Reading Program exceeded previous participation by including adults, bringing the participation count to 238 people. There was an off-site Children's Story Time held at Kingswood Farm on September 22nd. The E. Howard Marble Gallery Clock that had not run in 6 decades was repaired and is running again.

The New Library Facility Committee continues to work diligently on plans for a new library. Property belonging to the Brooklyn Historical Society is the favored site. RFPs and RFQs have been received from architects and a Community Investment Fund Grant from the State of CT was applied for to cover the cost of planning and architect's design fees. Our grant application was not chosen in the latest round of funding, but we will apply again.

Recruiting of new association members becomes more difficult each year. Hoping to focus on this project in the future to increase membership.

She thanked library staff, executive board members, association members and Friends of the Library for their continued interest and support.

Friends of the Library: President Kerri Osborne spoke. Their events included a book and bake sale last November, ice cream social at end of Summer Reading Program, attendance at Fall Festival at the Episcopal Church with items for sale. They will be creating a Friends of the Brooklyn Town Library Calendar and each month will feature books that brought our town together, to be decided by winners from online or paper survey voting. Calendars will cost \$15. The Friends have purchased Thanksgiving-themed books for each child who attends story time; they will do the same for Christmas. They will also participate in the PTO Holiday Festival. Concentration is on making the library seen out in the community.

Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers and Executive Board members for 2025-2026: President, Wendy Harrington, Vice President Deneen Azzolino, Secretary Wendy Harrington, and Treasurer Patricia Ball. Executive Board members: Ken Dykstra, Beverly Spink, Diane Wimmer, Jane Sipila, Carolyn Otto, Kerri Osborne, Charlene Hill, and Desiree Burlingame. Alternates: Amy Clark, Martha Ennis, and Alexandra Smith. The following persons contacted by the Nominating Committee have agreed to become members of the Brooklyn Town Library Association: Cara Corracio-Bellantone of P.O.Box 294, Krystal Shaw of 99 Darby Road, and Denise M. Auger of 137 Darby Road. There were no nominations from the floor. Motion was made by Martha Ennis and seconded by Anne Hunter to close the nominations. The secretary cast one ballot for acceptance of the Nominating Committee Report. So Voted.

Old Business: None

New Business: Letter of resignation from Tracy Clang was read. Motion was made by Martha Ennis and seconded by Beverly Spink to accept the resignation with regrets. So Voted. Lisa Burbank spoke of the library as part of the 250th Anniversary of the United States and a tea party to be held (location to be determined.) Martha Ennis has designed a possible commemorative coffee mug (picture was shown) for the library to sell.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion was made by Deneen Azzolino and seconded by Linda Mark to adjourn the meeting. So Voted. Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy E. Harrington, Secretary