

**BROOKLYN TOWN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
127TH ANNUAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2020
AT THE CHAPEL OF
THE FEDERATED CHURCH**

The 127th annual meeting was held at the Chapel of the Federated Church in Brooklyn. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, seating was arranged in accordance with social distancing regulations and no more than 25 members were permitted to attend. The meeting was called to order by President, Wendy Harrington, at 7:35 PM. There were 12 members present. The attendance sheet is attached hereto.

Secretary Minutes: Acting Secretary, Wendy Harrington, read the minutes from the September 16, 2019 meeting as recorded by Secretary, Laure Nelson. A motion was made by Jane Sipila and seconded by Deneen Azzolino to accept the Secretary's Minutes as read. So voted.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Renee Messier, presented a Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2020 showing total current assets (comprised of checking, savings and CD accounts) of \$163,697.18 and total liabilities and equity of \$163,697.18. Her Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual for July 2019 through June 30, 2020 showed total income of \$143,592.79 and total library expenses of \$127,099.43. Other income from interest earned was \$2,036.12. Net income of \$16,493.36 plus interest income expense resulted in a balance of \$18,529.48. Her Profit & Loss statement for July 1 through October 26, 2020 showed income of \$73,124.04 with total expenses of \$34,595.59 and interest income of \$70.57 with a balance of \$38,598.72. Renee reported that interest rates on CDs is very low and as CDs have come up for renewal, she has renewed them for short periods of time hoping interest rates will have increased at their next renewal time. Motion made by Nancy Bell and seconded by Amy Landis to accept the treasurer's reports. So Voted.

Library Director's Report: Library Director, Catherine Tucker, reported that circulation totaled 7,851. Purchased books totaled 338. Donated & Used books totaled 107. Withdrawn were 675 books. Our present collection is 15,433 books. There are 5,934 registered bar-coded borrower cards. Numbers are down this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There was no summer recreation program and therefore no books for that borrowed from the library. This was Catherine's 32nd year presenting an annual report. Catherine thanked the association for having hired her on March 28, 1988 and for the experience of working at the library. She informed the association that she will be retiring the end of May, 2021. Motion was made by Jane Sipila and seconded by Beverly Spink to accept the Library Director's Report. So Voted.

Vote to Remain A Free Public Library: A motion was made by Amy Landis and seconded by Jane Sipila that we remain a Free Public Library. So voted.

President's Report: President Wendy Harrington reported that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the library had closed on March 16, 2020, but reopened on June 8, 2020 with Curbside Only

service for patrons. She reported that the library had received a \$2,000 donation from the estate of a man who wished to remain anonymous. Our library had made a huge impression on him as a child. The donation purchased two new laptop computers. When COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, the niece of the deceased will visit the library and consider making more of a donation to us. She reported that the Friends of the Library group has become inactive and she hopes it will be revived in the future. Our space requirement plans for a new library facility have been submitted to First Selectman, Rick Ives, for whenever plans move forward on a combined new town hall/library complex facility. She reported that the library had decided, at its Executive Board meeting prior to this annual meeting, to reopen by appointment only on Monday, November 9th. Catherine Tucker was to apply for the necessary "badge" from the State of CT. Motion by Carolyn Otto and seconded by Marie Dusseault to accept the President's Report. So Voted.

Friends of the Library: President Diane Wimmer was not in attendance; nothing to report.

Nominating Committee Report: Chairman Wendy Harrington presented the Nominating Committee Report. Slate of officers and Executive Board Members for 2029-2021 is as follows:

President: Wendy Harrington Vice President: Lisa Faria-Lindia

Secretary: (Vacancy Remains) Treasurer: Renee Messier

Executive Board Members: Ken Dykstra, Beverly Spink, Diane Wimmer, Joanne Lantry, Jane Sipila, Carolyn Otto, Aimee Anderson and Lorraine McLeish.

Alternates: Deneen Azzolino, Cassandra Leach, Joe Asermelly

The following persons contacted by the Nominating Committee have agreed to become members of the Brooklyn Town Library Association:

Luz Gonzalez	351 South Street
Jill Hardacker	28 Tripp Hollow Road
Laura Gatlin	69 Pomfret Landing Road

There were no nominations from the floor, A motion was made by Deneen Azzolino and seconded by Renee Messier to accept the Nominating Committee Report. So Voted.

The acting secretary cast one ballot for the acceptance of the Nominating Committee Report.

There was no Old Business.

New Business: A change needed to be made to the wording in Article III E of our new constitution as it incorrectly stated that our annual budget was presented to the Board of Finance, when it should have said Board of Selectmen. This error had been noticed by board member Carolyn shortly after our new constitution had been adopted at the last annual meeting. Motion was made by Amy Landis and seconded by Marie Dusseault to amend language in ARTICLE III E OFFICERS AND LIBRARY DIRECTOR that refers to the presenting of the annual budget as follows: by striking the words "Brooklyn Board of Finance" and substituting the words "Brooklyn Board of Selectmen". The necessary quorum of 12 association members to vote on amendments to our constitution was met . So Voted.

Marie Dusseault asked if in the 1912 Spanish Flu Pandemic the library had closed, after the President's Report mentioned the recent pandemic closing was a first in the library's history. President Harrington stated she would have to look back in old secretary's minutes to find that information. Marie Dusseault also asked if anything more was known about future library plans. President Harrington stated that our space requirements for a new library had been given to First Selectman Rick Ives.

Nancy Bell expressed her appreciation to Catherine Tucker for her many years of service to the library which was followed by a round of applause for Catherine.

A motion was made by Nancy Bell and seconded by Ken Dykstra to adjourn the meeting. So voted. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy E. Harrington, Acting Secretary