

**BROOKLYN TOWN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
128<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
HELD AT THE FEDERATED CHURCH CHAPEL BUILDING  
NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

This was our second annual meeting with masked attendees due to the continuing COVID-19 epidemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Wendy Harrington. 21 members were present. The attendance sheet is attached hereto. President Harrington introduced new Library Director, Elizabeth Swagger.

**Secretary's Minutes:** The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read by acting secretary, Wendy Harrington. Motion was made by Deneen Azzoliino and seconded by Carolyn Otto to accept the minutes as read. So Voted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Renee Messier presented a Profit & Loss Statement for July, 2020 through June, 2021 showing total income of \$191,046.30, total expenses of \$120,562.53 and net income of \$72,019.02. A Profit & Loss Statement for July 1-November 1, 2021 showed total income of \$73,329.20, total expenses of \$71,339.30 and net income of \$1,999.56. A Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2021 showed total assets of \$241,910.60 with liabilities and equity totaling \$241,910.60. Members took time to review the reports. A short discussion followed without questions other than the listed value of our building which had been determined by our accountant. Motion was made by Joe Asermelly and seconded by Amy Landis to accept the Treasurer's Report. So Voted.

**Library Director's Report:** New Library Director Elizabeth Swagger reported that circulation of books and other materials totaled 6,142. Purchased books 101. Leased books 152. Books withdrawn from July 1, 2020-May 25, 2021 692 and from May 26, 2021-June 30, 2021 2,589 for a total of 3,279 books withdrawn from our collection. Present book collection 22,467. Registered barcoded borrower cards 6,008. Curbside patrons served from June, 2020-March, 2021 195. Total items in our entire library collection 29,167. Elizabeth thanked library staff as well as Wendy Harrington and Renee Messier and The Friends of the Library for their help and support during her takeover as Library Director. She also mentioned that data is being collected on which to base a change of library hours next year and the kinds of materials needed for patron use. Motion was made by Jane Sipila and seconded by Michelle Shannon to accept the Library Director's Report as given. So Voted.

**Vote To Remain a Free Public Library:** Motion was made by Amy Landis and seconded by Jane Sipila to remain a free public library. So Voted.

**President's Report:** President Wendy Harrington chose the word "Transformation" as the one word to describe the past year since the last annual meeting. The library fully reopened to the public on March 19, 2021 after the disruption of normal services caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Longtime Library Director, Catherine Tucker retired in May after 33 years and Elizabeth Swagger was chosen as her replacement. Transformation of the library's former look began taking place immediately. The Friends of the Library began to rejuvenate after a two-year hiatus. The 50-year old furnace and air conditioning condenser were replaced. Library ductwork and the interior of the building were professionally cleaned. We became more compliant with building codes with the installation of wired-in heat, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors plus the necessary additional interior exit lighting was installed.

Hopefully word of our transformations and the promotion of increased services to patrons will make us worthy of support from the public when and if taxpayers are called upon to decide the library's future.

Motion was made by Lisa Lindia and seconded by Carolyn Otto to accept the President's Report. So Voted.

**Friends of the Library:** Vice President Lisa Lindia spoke in the absence of their President, Diane Wimmer. Responses to a letter and membership applications mailed out in July, after the group had a two-year hiatus in activity, were received, but Lisa had no information as to the exact number of memberships and dues that had been received. Lisa reported that The Friends have an account with \$8,500 in it and one with \$1,800 in it. A book sale held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> raised \$365.

**Report of the Nominating Committee:** Committee Chairman Wendy Harrington reported as follows: The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers and Executive Board Members for 2021-2022: Officers: President Wendy Harrington Vice President Lisa Faria-Lindia Secretary Wendy Harrington Treasurer Renee Messier Executive Board Members: Ken Dykstra, Beverly Spink, Diane Wimmer, Joanne Lantry, Jane Sipila, Carolyn Otto, Deneen Azzolino, and Joe Asermelly. Alternates: Cassandra Leach, Amy Landis, and Charlene Hill. The following persons contacted by the Nominating Committee have agreed to become members of the Brooklyn Town Library Association:

Cheryl Clark	260 Woodward Road
Desiree Burlingame	59 Tatnic Hill Road
Lisa Burbank	209 Providence Road
Khela McGann	527 Wauregan Road
Samantha Stiles	19 Suzanne Lane

There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Ken Dykstra and seconded by Lisa Lindia 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 or New Business to discuss. Members did present questions, as follows, which were addressed. What is the possibility of a new library? It was explained by President Harrington that the bigger issue, as told to us by Rick Ives, was finding a parcel of land, rather than the money needed and that it would be a combined library/town offices complex. With all the weeding of our book collection, should there be a target range as to how many books are required per capita population? That will be looked into. Will there be community events planned by the library? Library Director, Elizabeth Swagger, replied that on

Take Your Child to the Library Day (Feb. 5, 2022) she was hoping to plan something. The Head Start Director has been in contact with her as well about activities. Will the Library Director be going to children centers to read since the pandemic does not allow for field trips? That could be arranged. Could an email notification system to library card holders be established? Elizabeth mentioned a couple of systems she knows of to do that. It was suggested to have Elizabeth appear on the local WINY Radio to promote the library and to advertise our events through the radio station as well.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion was made by Linda Mark and seconded by Luz Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting. So Voted. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy E. Harrington, Secretary