



**Board of Trustees Meeting  
Bath Public Library  
August 22, 2024 4:15 PM**

The Board of Trustees met at the Bath Library on August 22, 2024 at 4:15 PM.

Members present included Alexandra Brown, Melanie Forde, Bob Kramer, Thomas Bell, Tim Eldredge, Harper Donahoe, Bret Kampf, and Sherri Wheeler. Mary Jo Brinkley, who is awaiting approval as a board member, was also present. Staff members present were Julie Goyette, Library Director, and Janice Burguieres, Secretary.

Bret Kampf, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.

Harper Donahoe made a motion to approve the agenda. Alex Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tom McCraw, mayor of Goshen, and Steve Bigley, vice mayor of Goshen, gave an update on the town's move into the new building. Tom and Steve offered to rent the former Goshen town hall building to the library for \$800.00 per month. Harper asked if there was a timeline for the Board to make a decision. Steve stated that they would like an answer within thirty days. Bret asked, if the library rented the building, would Goshen refrain from marketing the building for sale. Steve indicated that the town would make no effort to sell the building as long as the library was interested in renting it. Julie inquired as to the amount of storage in the former town hall building. Steve indicated that the storage was limited to a few closets. Thomas Bell asked if it would be possible to look at the building after the board meeting. Steve stated that they would be available to show the building to any board members who wished to tour it that evening.

Melanie made a correction to a typographical error in the minutes from the June 27, 2024 meeting. Harper made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Sherri seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**Mission Moment**

Amy Porterfield, Bath Library Branch Manager, shared the programs that the library offered during the summer. She highlighted the popularity of the Pond Explorers program. Students visit a local pond owned by Carl Behrens, former Treasurer for RRLS Board of Trustees, and study the plants, animals, and water. They complete experiments and activities that relate to the pond theme. The participants made terrariums in order to observe the water cycle. Children too young to visit the pond were included in the theme by doing pond related activities at the library. Melanie asked if the program had access to microscopes. Amy informed the board that she was able to purchase microscopes with grant money and that the children were able to study the pond water up close. Amy stated that, due to the popularity of the program, adult patrons have asked about the possibility of expanding the program to include adults.

**Public Comment**

Hugh Henderson spoke to the board regarding his concerns over children's access to library materials.

## **Questions regarding board packet**

The Board did not have questions regarding the board packet.

## **Discussion**

Julie shared information with the board regarding the Piovano veil that was donated to Lexington Library. She stated that Frances Richardson examined the veil to determine its condition. Frances informed Julie that the veil is in good condition considering its age. Melanie Forde asked about the material makeup of the veil. Julie was not sure but stated that she would find out. She requested permission from the board to transfer possession of the veil to the Rockbridge Historical Society, which is able to house the veil in the proper archival conditions. The consensus of the board members was that the Rockbridge Historical Society was the most appropriate home for the veil.

The Board members read through the new Public Comment, Unscheduled Closings, and Friends policies. Julie reported that the policies did not undergo a major revision but were reviewed for clarity. She also stated that, although there is not currently a Friends group, the Policy Committee believed that it is important to keep the policy for any future Friends groups.

Julie reported that she met with County Administrator Spencer Suter and Tom Carroll, the new City Manager in Lexington, regarding the budget and explained to them the reasons for requesting full funding. Without the funding, the Goshen, Glasgow, Outreach, and Lexington branches would need to reduce the hours of operation as well as programs and services.

The Board discussed replacing the Board Chair position left vacant by the resignation of Tom Goodale. Vice Chair Bret volunteered to assume the role. Julie also informed the Board that Tom's unexpired term on the board needs to be filled. Sharyn Billings has an expressed an interest in applying.

## **Action Items**

The board voted on the revised policies that were shared during the discussion portion of the meeting. Tim made a motion to approve the Public Comment policy. Alex seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Melanie made a motion to approve the Unscheduled Closings policy. Alex seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Alex made a motion to approve the Friends policy. Tim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Harper made a motion to approve Bret as the new board chair to fill the vacancy left by Tom Goodale's resignation. Tim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24

The next meeting will be held on September 19, 2024 at 4:15 PM at the Lexington Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Burguières  
Recording Secretary