

Board of Trustees of the Charlton Public Library
March 17, 2022, 6:30 P.M.
Meeting Minutes



Present: Jordan Evans, Robert Hartwig, Cheryl Meskus, Frances Mower, Fiona Ryder, Stefan Sage, Karen Wall, Director, Sherri Westbury, guest.

Chairman Sage opened the meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Minutes of the February 17, 2022 meeting: F. Ryder moved approval with date correction, second J. Evans, unanimous. C. Meskus abstained because she was absent from the 2-17 meeting.

The next meeting was set for April 21 at 6:30 P.M.

Trustees reviewed and discussed a trustee evaluation form, agreeing that part I was suitable for group discussion while part II was structured for self evaluation. Trustees also agreed that a review of the new director at 6 months would be helpful. At the May meeting, however the composition of the board will have changed by at least 2 of the 7 members, so the interim evaluation was moved up to the April meeting.

Photography and video policy. The existing policy was reviewed by Attorney Cosgrove who opined that the policy should be revised to allow more discretion to the director, staff and trustees, using the Boston Public Library's policy as a template. S. Sage, on the other hand, continued to be concerned that the present policy could leave the library open to lawsuits for a violation of first amendment rights. Trustees discussed various hypothetical scenarios in which the right to film or question patrons or staff might be limited and what right to privacy might exist in public spaces. Trustees generally agreed that harassing behavior and incursions into private spaces such as offices are unacceptable.

Director Wall reported that Business Network International (BNI) Charlton Chapter met at the library for the first time. The meeting required opening outside of normal operating hours. The reports indicated no budget problems at this point in the fiscal year and continuing strong traffic and circulation statistics.

At their next meeting, trustees will revisit the policy that sets the minimum age for room reservations.

At 7:55, J. Evans motioned for adjournment seconded by F. Mower. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert J. Hartwig

Accepted 4/21/22

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stefan Sage".