

**Rutherford Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes for June 26, 2023 Meeting**

**Open Meeting Held: Library Auditorium
Optional Zoom Meeting ID 842 9475 4177 & Password 974544**

1. Roll Call

Trustees Present	Ms. Wendy Armacost Ms. Kristie Damell - Zoom Ms. Brenda Fargo - Zoom Ms. Stephanie Kivich - Zoom Mr. Jimmy Rizzo - Zoom Ms. Monica Rodriguez (arrived 7:06) Ms. Krista Vellis - Zoom Mr. Palmer Yale - Zoom
Absent	Ms. Kat Fanning
Staff Present	Ms. Gretchen Corsillo
Others Present	Mr. David LaPorta, Attorney
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Ms. Armacost

2. Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act

Ms. Vellis read the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.

3. President's Report

A. Agenda

Motion: To approve the agenda
Moved: Vellis **Seconded:** Yale
For: Armacost, Damell, Fargo, Kivich, Rizzo, Vellis, Yale
Against:
Abstain:

B. Approval of the minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023 open meeting
Moved: Vellis **Seconded:** Fargo
For: Armacost, Damell, Fargo, Kivich, Rodriguez
Against:
Abstain: Rizzo, Vellis, Yale

Motion: To approve the minutes of the closed session of the May 15, 2023 meeting
Moved: Vellis **Seconded:** Kivich
For: Armacost, Damell, Fargo, Kivich, Rodriguez
Against:
Abstain: Rizzo, Vellis Yale

4. Hearing of the citizens

Ms. Armacost opened the hearing of the citizens. As no citizens were present to speak, the hearing was closed.

5. Correspondence – none

6. Director's Report

Ms. Corsillo reported:

- Our 2022 audit began on the 21st and should wrap up this week.
- We received a \$600 donation from the Lions Club for large print books.
- Friends of the Library – fundraising went so well that they are going to reimburse us for the summer reading prizes – about \$1,500. They are doing a children's book sale on July 21 and 24 to clear out what they have in storage, not taking any new donations. There is a children's theater program on July 21, which is a great way to get people interested in shopping.
- Foundation – they have received from Stonefield an estimate of \$30-35,000 for the teen space. We added a ramp to make it ADA accessible, which is reflected in that cost.
- Foundation and Friends are both doing bylaws reviews.
- NJLA Conference Ms. Corsillo attended. One possible idea that came out of it was an ad-hoc Acquisitions and Services committee comprised of board members and staff. If we were hit with a book challenge, we would be able to respond to it quickly. We will work on this when the Policy Committee reviews the library's Materials Selection policy.
- Community Outreach – PrideFest table went well. We registered adults and teens for summer reading. Some of the Friends helped as well, promoting their movie nights. Multicultural Festival – we will be there on the Friday. We are participating for the first time. Foreign language collection and ESL classes can be promoted.
- Public policy – bill S3907 – NJ Right to Read act. Public and school libraries would be required to adopt the ALA Bill of Rights or similar. If a library has this in their policy and they remove a book from the collection without going through proper process, they can lose their state aid. Probably not voted on until after the summer recess. NJLA is trying to increase the per capita state aid – Budget Resolution 1332. Looking to restore it to the full amount that it was cut from 13 years ago. We get a little under \$10,000, but every bit helps. Some of the state aid was restored last year.

7. Committee Reports

A. Finance

Motion: To approve payment of bills enclosed in packet

Moved: Vellis Seconded: Rizzo

For: Armacost, Damell, Fargo, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Vellis, Yale

Against:

Abstain:

B. Buildings/Grounds – Façade is slightly crumbling on the Chestnut St. side of the building. We should reach out and make sure that Ms. Quatrone/the Borough are aware.

C. Foundation – Reviewing By-Laws. Looking to streamline them.

D. By-Laws – No report

E. Strategic Planning – Meeting is needed to check in 6 months into the plan.

F. Nominating – No report

G. Personnel – No report

H. Mayor/Alternate – No report

I. Superintendent/Alternate – School is out.

J. Legal – No report

8. Old Business

- Approval of Meeting Room Policy
 - o The existing policy is from 2010 and wasn't followed very closely. Because of high demand, we are having to plan library programs around outside organizations. We wanted to be sure we were protected as well. We reviewed other libraries' policies to see how this is being handled elsewhere. We will be limiting use to Rutherford non-profits and Borough groups and only in the downstairs auditorium. No commercial entities. They will only be able to book 60 days in advance and only use the meeting room 4 times per year, so that no one group can monopolize it. We also developed an application and a Hold Harmless agreement which has been sent to PIA for approval. We made a list of various other meeting spaces in town for reference.

Motion: To approve the Meeting Room Policy and accompanying documents as presented, replacing all prior versions.

Moved: Kivich Seconded: Yale

For: Armacost, Damell, Fargo, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Vellis, Yale

Against:

Abstain:

Planning on putting this on the website and we will reach out to the groups who have asked about the rooms. Also, we will contact the groups that have a standing reservation.

9. New Business

- None

10. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Yale Seconded: Rizzo

For: Armacost, Damell, Fargo, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Vellis, Yale

Against:

Abstain:

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cori Verdino

Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2023 at 7:00pm