Rutherford Public Library Board of Trustees
Minutes for February 18, 2025 Meeting 7:00PM

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

1. Roll Call

Trustees Present	Ms. Marisa Ackermann Ms. Wendy Armacost Ms. Kim Bogosian Ms. Stephanie Kivich - Zoom Mr. Jimmy Rizzo - Zoom Ms. Monica Rodriguez Mr. Charles Ryan - Zoom Ms. Krista Vellis - Zoom Mr. Palmer Yale
Absent	
Staff Present	Ms. Gretchen Corsillo
Others Present	Mr. Ian Doris Mr. David LaPorta
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 for tonight's meeting
Moved: Yale Seconded: Bogosian
For: Ackermann, Armacost, Bogosian, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Ryan, Vellis, Yale
Against:
Abstain:

B. Approval of the minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025 regular board meeting
Moved: Bogosian Seconded: Yale
For: Ackermann, Armacost, Bogosian, Kivich, Ryan, Yale
Against:
Abstain: Rizzo, Rodriguez, Vellis

The 2025 Committee Roster was emailed out just before the meeting.

4. Hearing of the citizens

Ms. Armacost opened the meeting to the hearing of the citizens. Seeing none, she closed the meeting.

5. Correspondence – None

6. Director's Report

Ms. Corsillo reported:

- Facilities – Teen Space counters are going to be installed in early April. Painting and electrical are done. The Foundation will do something after that to recognize and have pictures for the Gala.
    - PSE&G has a new energy efficiency grant program that we are trying to get into. Boilers and lower-level lighting are what we are interested in. They are expected to get back to us with pricing next month.
    - Repairs to the boiler are happening currently.
- Ms. Corsillo and Ms. Armacost had a preliminary meeting with the Borough Administrator and CFO to go over this year's budget. The next step is a meeting with them and the Council's Finance Committee, which will take place shortly.
- Ms. Corsillo applied for a Better Worlds Books Grant to offset Summer Reading costs. She and Ms. Portugal and looking into the State Library's REV 250 Grant – several things that it can go towards. There is not a lot of time to get it in – the application is due in the middle of March. Ms. Armacost suggested digitizing Rutherford's 1900s newspaper.
- Computer installation is complete in Children's and Adult so all public computers are now maintained by BCCLS. The Meescan iPad has been upgraded as well.
- Star Ledger said they were going to have a Library specific platform, but they haven't followed through with that yet. We have it in NewsBank, but it's not the easiest to use.
- Mini Golf – Friday morning session was cancelled due to lack of sales. Saturday is "sold out" but there are a few tickets available at the door first come first served. They have already surpassed their fundraising expectations.
- Puzzle Swap – Ms. Rodriguez and Ms. Kivich started the collection. Very informal. We are not cataloguing. It's more like a Little Free Library.
- Library of Things – A Memory Kit has been added for anyone who has dementia. We also have printed packets for caregivers to use with their patients. Both were provided by Bergen County's Dementia Friendly initiative.
- Hoopla has started to add AI generated content to their collection. We don't have control over their content. People in BCCLS have reached out to our reps at Hoopla. They are recommending blocking individual titles, but that's not feasible. They just came out with a comment that they are going to start looking at it. If it continues, we may need to get rid of it. We are hoping that they will come up with a solution.
- We received a donation of materials by and about William Carlos Williams from a Paramus resident who consulted with him for her college thesis in the 1960s. They will be inventoried and added to our WCW archive.

7. Committee Reports

A. Finance

1. Payment of January bills

Motion: To approve payment of bills enclosed in the packet, with additions
Moved: Rizzo Seconded: Yale
For: Ackermann, Armacost, Bogosian, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Ryan, Vellis, Yale
Against:

Abstain:

B. Buildings/Grounds – Camera is on order for the back garden.

C. Foundation – Ticket sales are live for the Gala.

D. By-Laws – No report.

E. Strategic Planning – No report

F. Nominating – No report

G. Personnel – No report

H. Mayor/Alternate – No report.

I. Superintendent/Alternate – Mr. Ryan reported that a study just came out that showed since Covid - Out of 100 districts looked at in the country – in Rutherford Reading and Math scores went up higher than pre-Covid. Other NJ districts that went up were Princeton, Montclair, and Livingston.

J. Legal – No report.

8. Old Business

- 2025 Committee Assignments – have been distributed.

9. Closed Session

WHEREAS, the "Open Public Meetings Act" requires that a public body adopt a resolution at an open meeting before going into closed session to discuss a matter which excludes the public as permitted under Section 7b;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Library Board of Trustees will hold a closed meeting on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:20 PM in person and via Zoom to discuss a legal matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the outcome of this discussion will be disclosed to the public when there is no further need for confidentiality.

10. New Business

- Revised Hours: March 7, 2025

Motion: To authorize the library to open from 10:00am-1:00pm on Friday, March 7, 2025.
Moved: Rodriguez Seconded: Ackermann
For: Ackermann, Armacost, Bogosian, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Ryan, Vellis, Yale
Against:
Abstain:

- Amendments to Museum Pass Policy

- There have been issues with families monopolizing them. “Households” instead of “card holders”. In addition, a Household may only borrow once every 30 days. Similar policy as the Hot Spots.

Motion: To modify the library’s lending policy for museum passes as presented.
Moved: Rizzo Seconded: Bogosian
For: Ackermann, Armacost, Bogosian, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Ryan, Vellis, Yale
Against:
Abstain:

11. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.
Moved: Yale Seconded: Bogosian
For: Ackermann, Armacost, Bogosian, Kivich, Rizzo, Rodriguez, Ryan, Vellis, Yale
Against:
Abstain:

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cori Verdino

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM