

**Franklin Township Library
Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2023**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT – “In accordance with section 3 of the Open Public Meetings Act (P.L. 1975, c.231), the Chair declares that adequate public notice of this meeting has been posted at least 48 hours in advance on the Franklin Township Library’s website (www.ftlnj.org) and the Township of Franklin’s website (www.franlintownshipnj.org), as well as in the Franklin Township Library’s newsletter (*The Franklin File*, 2023, Vol. 9, Issue 2), and *The Sentinel* (2023, January 5 – 11, 2023, p.4).”

CALL TO ORDER

D. Emmons, President, was present and called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. Emmons, President, led the Board in the flag salute.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

- D. Emmons
- A. Fletcher
- P. Robinson
- C. Rupp
- L. Senior
- K. Shover
- D. Unkow
- J. Wilson
 - **Absent** – H. Flaim

- N. Niziolek (**Library Director**)

FIRST PUBLIC PORTION

Motion: made to open the First Public Portion at 7:03 pm by J. Wilson, seconded by L. Senior. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Barbara Dougherty, a prominent, long-time resident of Franklin Township was present at the meeting but deferred her statement for the Second Public Portion.

Motion: made to close the First Public Portion at 7:03 pm by J. Wilson, seconded by K. Shover. Motion carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

a. Minutes from March 15, 2023

Motion: made to accept the March 15, 2023, Secretary's Report (**including minutes from all special meetings held - see inserts**) by P. Robinson, seconded by J. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion: made to accept the Treasurer's Report by J. Wilson, seconded by K. Shover. Unanimous roll call approval.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (SEE INSERT FOR FULL REPORT)

- Adult/teen/youth/baby programs/outreach
- Trainings/Meetings/Webinars attended by Library Director and staff
- Interviews for part-time library assistant
- Meeting with Township official
- Super Library Supervisors Training attended by C. Worrell
- Attended Friends' meeting
- Monthly library statistics for March
- Friends spring book sale scheduled for 4/22
- Reminder to Board members to file annual disclosures by 4/30/23
- Wowbrary Statistics

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Strategic Planning Committee:

- **Motion:** made to accept the minutes from the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on March 21, 2023 by C. Rupp, seconded by A. Fletcher. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Policy Development Committee:

- **Motion:** made to accept the minutes from the Policy Development Committee meeting held on April 19th by L. Senior, seconded by J. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion:** made to accept the recommendation of the Policy Development Committee to approve the Art Display Policy by J. Wilson, seconded by L. Senior. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion:** made to accept the recommendation of the Policy Development Committee to approve the Laptop In-House Usage Policy by J. Wilson, seconded by P. Robinson. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

- None.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Renovation Project Updates:**
 - An update on the digital sign (quotes from KC Sign Company) was presented by C. Rupp and P. Robinson. Catherine will contact the company regarding showing the Board members a sign sample.
 - Director Niziolek discussed the need for tables in the stacks area and will begin the process of obtaining quotes for the tables.

NEW BUSINESS

- President Emmons and Director Niziolek met with the Township representative (H. Flaim) to discuss revisiting the previous services agreement between the Library and Township. The Township paid for utilities (gas and electric) as well as some fringe benefits in the previous agreement. Increasing costs are impacting the library budget and discussion focused on costs the Township could absorb again (such as utilities, pension, or healthcare). President Emmons and Director Niziolek will follow up with the Township representative to discuss further.

SECOND PUBLIC PORTION

Motion: made to open a Second Public Portion at 8:20 pm, by J. Wilson, seconded by A. Fletcher. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Dougherty addressed the Board regarding the graphic images in the book “Let’s Talk About It: The Teen’s Guide to Sex, Relationships, and Being a Human” and voiced her displeasure that the book was not removed from the shelves of the library. Ms. Dougherty also stated that there were other patrons that objected to the book still on the shelf of the library.

Director Niziolek acknowledged receipt of one request for reconsideration form about the book. The complaint was addressed and no further correspondence was received from the complainant. Director Niziolek explained the library’s policy if patrons would like to challenge a book in the collection and offered a copy of the policy and request for reconsideration form to Ms. Dougherty. Ms. Dougherty declined to take a copy of either.

Motion: made to close second Public Portion at 8:33 pm, by A. Fletcher, seconded by J. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

- **Motion:** made to go into Closed Session at 8:33 pm by J. Wilson, seconded by C. Rupp. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion:** made to close Closed Session at 8:40 pm by C. Rupp, seconded by J. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: made to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm by A. Fletcher, seconded by J. Wilson. Motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting will be held on May 17th, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Audrey Fletcher, Secretary