

**NORTHBOROUGH FREE LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 14, 2021**

**PRESENT:** Michelle Rehill (Chair), Mitch Cohen, Richard Tucker, Joan Scott, Mary Crowley, Jim Hogan.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jennifer Bruneau (Library Director), Deb Hersh

**NOT PRESENT:** Neeta Karanjkar, Charles Recchia

**CALL TO MEETING, OPENING REMARKS & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Chair called the meeting to order @ 7:01PM. She read aloud Gov. Baker's standard advisory regarding public meetings during the pandemic. She conducted a **ROLL CALL** attendance of Board members present. She noted that the "Holiday Treats" for the staff have been delivered with thanks for all that they have done during difficult times. Chair next asked for motions to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 21 and November 9, 2021. M. Crowley (second M. Cohen) moved approval of the October meeting minutes and J. Scott (second M. Crowley) moved approval of the November meeting minutes. **ROLL CALL** votes were conducted for each set of minutes and each passed unanimously.

**APPROPRIATIONS REPORT:** The report, although prepared, was not included in the meeting packet. Director Bruneau reported that the budget is still very much on track.

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** The report stands as submitted. Director Bruneau highlighted the following items;

- Working with Town Facilities Manager, Shawn Thompson, the HVAC Maintenance contract will be upgraded (+\$6000). This will balance out many current repair costs.
- Water heaters will be replaced with energy efficient heat pump heaters.
- M. Cohen (Chair Building & Grounds Committee) is planning a meeting with S. Thompson.
- Due to Covid, masks remain required by all and compliance has been good.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chair noted that the Library should be consistent with other Town departments regarding early closures during the 2021 holidays. J. Hogan (second M. Crowley) moved that the Board approve this. A **ROLL CALL** vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

-A list of proposed 2022 closed days and early closures was included in the Board packet. R. Tucker (second J. Hogan) moved that the Board approve these dates. A **ROLL CALL** vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

-Chair noted that for 2022, the second Tuesday of each month should remain the monthly meeting date. The one exception is November when the second Tuesday (11.8) is election day. Board members agreed that the best option is to move the meeting up a week to 11.15.

-M. Cohen next led a discussion of the potential purchase of a property next to the library which is for sale. While the additional property would be nice, it was agreed that this is

probably not feasible. That was also the written opinion of DPW Director, Scott Charpentier. However, M. Crowley and M. Cohen will pursue the matter further with Town officials.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 @ 7 PM.

There being no further business before the Board, Chair called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by M. Cohen, second by M. Crowley. A **ROLL CALL** vote was conducted and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned @ 7:53 PM.

**DOCUMENTS REFERENCED DURING THIS MEETING OF DECEMBER 14, 2021.**

1. Agenda for the meeting of December 14, 2021
2. Minutes of the meetings of October 21 and November 9, 2021
3. Library Director's Report (December 2021)
4. List of closed days for 2022
5. Property chart showing for sale property @ 38 Main Street

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Hogan, Board Secretary