

Barrington Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Special Meeting Minutes APPROVED
September 13, 2022

Present: Trustees: Susan Gaudiello, chair, Leigh Elliott, Susan Frankel, Karolina Bodner, Karen Towne, Lydia Cupp and Alternate Melanie Haley. Library Director, Melissa Huetten. Friends Chair: Cindy Cafasso. Foundation chair: Roger Gingrich and Rebecca Butcher. Absent: Trustee Robert Drew and Alternate Sam Ronda.

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Chair Susan Gaudiello.
This special meeting was called primarily to discuss possible strategies for moving forward with a new library, and a possible bond for the March 2024 Barrington election.

Susan G. and Karen informed us about their meeting with the Recreation Dept. director and Commissioners to discuss possible joint projects and Warrant Articles. It was determined that the Rec. is not interested in partnering with the Library at this time.

It was noted that since discussions for a new library began many years ago, the town population has grown to nearly 10,000. During the Envision Barrington process, residents had expressed interest in more public meeting and event spaces. The new town hall will have its Open House on Oct. 18 and residents will view the spaces available for public use. In light of these changes, the group discussed how to re-engage the community in dialogue about plans for a new library.

It was decided that this committee of Trustees, Friends and Foundation will conduct Focus Groups as well as research all possible options and alternatives to determine what the voters want.

*All possible sites will be discussed including
> old town hall site on Ramsdell Lane
> Rt. 9 Holy Rosary Property /Christmas Dove area
> new town hall area and old town offices on Rt. 125

Messaging: How to reach out to the community about the March 2024 new library proposal.

*Susan G., Roger and Rebecca will work on messaging and a survey to be presented at:
> Library information table at the November 2022 election.
> Survey Monkey for anonymous input: online venues, paper, and possibly door to door.
> In person meetings with donors, patrons and existing town groups.

It was decided that this committee will determine various ways to inform the community of research and focus group results to include:

> a table at the March 2023 town election to present summaries of all gathered input received up to that time for a new Barrington Community Library.

Example: "Here's what we heard so far. What do you think?"

A Library Open House will be held in January to welcome the new Library Director. New residents will be invited with an opportunity to learn about Library resources and programs.

Karen made a motion to adjourn at 7:40, seconded by Lydia, and the motion passed.

Next Meeting of this Committee December 6, 2022 at 6pm.

Minutes recorded by Karolina Bodner, Trustee Secretary