

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
February 18, 2025
In-person and via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm.

Present: Chair Linda Weene; Trustees: Carolyn Bell, Claire Goss, Bonnie Mitchell, Kab Rabinowitz, Library Director Meena Jain

January 2025 minutes were approved with two minor edits.

No community participation.

FY25 budget is on track. Meena will have a bit extra to use for materials this year.

Youth Services Report: January was very busy! Forty programs were offered with almost 1,400 attendees. The winter reading challenge (and the prize machine!) were very popular. There will be a Young Artists Comic Fest in the summer and there is currently a contest for children and teens to create a logo for the event.

No update on the HVAC. Lighting work could potentially begin this week.

Meena suggested an edit to the programming policy: for in-person programs with limited space/supplies, the registration will open to Ashland residents first. If, a week prior to the program starting, there is space available, non-residents will be approved to attend in the order in which they registered.

Meena attended the next installment of the tri-board meeting of Department Heads. There is already a \$2 million deficit projected in the town budget. Meena was able to give a short presentation about the library's growth and what APL needs to keep running effectively (additional staff hour and materials). Michael will work on balancing the budget.

The Citizen's Leadership Academy presentation is schedule for early April. Katrina and Meena will present together.

Sam Reilly, the sustainability coordinator, asked if the Trustees want to have a table at the Earth Day Celebration at the Corner Spot. Trustees agreed to pass on this event but suggest we look for other ways to collaborate.

When Carol Ambacher passed away she asked that donations be made to APL. The Friends are in charge of the Donor Fund. They are discussing using the donations to purchase new furniture for the children's room.

Carolyn attended the public hearing for the 10-60 Main Street 40b development proposal and commented on the increased traffic the development will cause.

The next meeting will be on March 18, 2025 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Goss
Secretary