

Board of Library Trustees Minutes
June 10, 2020
Ashland Public Library-Zoom Call

Meeting was called to order at 11:03 A.M. Minutes of May 21, 2020 were unanimously approved with one spelling correction. Forest replaces Forrest in the fifth paragraph.

Present: Chair Bonnie Mitchell; Trustees Carolyn Bell, Lornie Bullerwell, Carol Ambacher, Kab Rabinowitz; Library Director Paula Bonetti; Children's Librarian Lois McAuliffe; Town Representatives: Beth Reynolds and Jenn Ball.

This emergency meeting was called to discuss and approve the application of an outdoor dining permit by Erica's Ristorante at 78 Front Street, adjacent to the library. Approval by the select Board was conditional on the Trustees' approval.

The application submitted by Erica's requests a one-time, temporary borrowing of town land in front of and alongside the library for the Phase Two summer restaurant outdoor reopening to conclude no later than November 1, 2020. The plan envisions a roping off for 20 picnic-type tables on that land, set at six-foot spacing, five of which will be removed when indoor dining is permitted. The removal would conform to a 25% capacity requirement for indoor dining. This is an open-air, no umbrella or tent arrangement. There will be a dedicated employee overseeing this outdoor space. There will be string or ground lighting since the hours of operation are 4-9 P.M. Monday through Saturday.

Erica's currently has an alcohol license and a certificate of liability insurance through November 3, 2020.

The Board of Library Trustees discussed at length questions which were answered by either Beth Reynolds or Jenn Ball. Paula Bonetti recognizes there will be concerns by patrons who use the library and they will be addressed by the Board as raised. Recognizing concerns about private use of town property, alcohol, liability, property maintenance, the Board approved this one-time precedent-setting request from a small business contributing to our town economy. The vote passed 4-1.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M. The next Board meeting is June 16, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ambacher
Secretary