



**NORTH KINGSTOWN FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2022**

PRESENT WERE: Varuna Abeywardarne, Rini Georgekutty, Dan Humbyrd, Dianne Izzo, Martha Parks, Lori Vernon, Susan Aylward, Interim Director and Jenn Boettger, Assistant Director. **Absent:** Elizabeth Suvvari

- 1. Call to Order-** The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the North Kingstown Free Library held on Monday, October 17, 2022 was called to order by Board Treasurer Rini Georgekutty at 7:00 p.m.
- 2.** Pursuant to RIGL 42-46-6 (c) Notice of this meeting has been posted on the Secretary of State's website.
- 3. Approval of minutes of the October 17, 2022 meeting:** The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2022 meeting on a motion made by Dianne Izzo and seconded by Martha Parks.
- 4. Budget 2024 Preliminary Draft and Finance Report Year-to-Date 11/10/22:** Interim Director Aylward reviewed the early figures for the FY 2024 budget in the context of the past three fiscal years and explained the framework that she will be using for estimating possible increases in the accounts. The preliminary budget will be refined in the next couple of weeks and will be ready for a vote at the December 12, 2022 board meeting to send it as a "preliminary" request to the Town Manager to meet his deadline of December 16, 2022.
- 5. Director's Report:** Interim Director Aylward highlighted the successful meeting she and board member Rini Georgekutty had with the town auditors regarding the incorrect status of the library itself as a "component" unit. This will be corrected in this year's audit-in-progress.

Board member Lori Vernon raised questions about the authority given the interim director to proceed with the meeting room carpet project, having remembered the proceedings of the October 17 NKFL Corporation meeting in quite a different way. The interim director reviewed her notes from that meeting, which reflected unanimous passage of a motion to fund all five projects, presented to the Corporation, in their entirety, which included the meeting room carpet project. There were no caveats on the motion. Since this was a motion passed by the Corporation and not in the purview of the Board of Trustees, Lori's questions will be referred to the Corporation Chair for review and resolution.
- 6. Library Holiday Schedule for Thanksgiving and Christmas:** The proposed schedule was unanimously approved by the Board on a motion made by Dan Humbyrd and seconded by Dianne Izzo.
- 7. Board of Trustees Calendar for 2023:** The proposed calendar of Board of Trustees meetings for 2023 was unanimously approved by the Board on a motion made by Martha Parks, seconded by Varuna Abeywardane.
- 8. Public Comment—**John McDermott requested clarification about when state grant-in-aid figures would be available. Interim Director Aylward responded that there has been no date given for when that information is available. It is usually some time in December. Varuna Abeywardane talked about a podcast he heard on the topic of E-books and the difficulty that public libraries are having regarding exorbitant licensing fees. We will arrange for library staff member Nancy Nadeau to make a guest appearance at the December 12th meeting to discuss OSL's (and our) challenges with making popular titles available in the downloadable format given the costs associated with them.
- 9. Adjournment—**The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by unanimous vote on a motion made by Martha Parks, seconded by Rini Georgekutty.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Aylward, Interim Director