

New Britain Library Board Minutes
New Britain, RI, 02360
October 13, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Jo Street.

Member's present were: Jo Street, Travis Samuel, Diane Stanchfield, Greg Sweet, Judy Sachs, Vivian Bowker, Vicki, the Librarian, and potential new Board member, Amanda Williams.

Public Comments: None

Board Meeting Minutes:

September meeting minutes were reviewed. Vivian mentioned for September minutes to be approved. Judy seconded. Minutes were approved.

Librarian Director Updates:

-Vicki distributed the September 2023 Librarian report to Board members and the report was reviewed.

-September was our best month ever. We had 18 new patrons added, launching Libby helped. The Treasurer/Librarian Director asked Vicki about Libby and Vicki explained how inexpensive it is.

-The shoe clinic had 17 people.

-Trick or Treat in the park is Friday night, 5:00 is set up, we have tattoos, finger toys, and elementary school books to give out. We have a Disney girl scout unit using our front room and they asked if we would pass out a flyer for them and we will.

-The Book and book sale is Saturday. If anyone wants to donate book/dvd items, it will be appreciated. You can bring them on Friday. We will have a preview sale on Friday from 1:00-5:00 with hardback books, \$1.00 and paperbacks, \$.50. Volunteers are welcome. Judy Geries, who has helped with so many things, has a serious illness and is no longer able to volunteer. We would like to get her something to thank her for her hard work over the years. We might even name the room the Judy Geries Room with a plaque. She has helped with the books, cleaning the lockers out, old paperwork, setting up for the book sale and so many other things.

-Vicki can purchase about 60 lightweight folding chairs for \$990. She can't find a cart for the chairs. After the book sale, she will clear out the closet and see how many chairs will fit. There was discussion about building a cart. Vicki will check into it and let us know at the next meeting. She went to the Kmart Supplies store in town but could not find two-deck chairs that would work at the front entrance. She purchased two from Amazon.

-Preschool Story Time in Sep was high, but October was low. Kids were not very good, throwing books, and parents were not helpful. Vicki read some but when she used the iPad the kids were good. She used the Technology Grant to purchase a TV and a stand from Amazon. It can be used for Story Time and Summer Reading.

-Vicki started the process to get the Little Free Library mapped with others.

-We have tentative schedules for book fairs and holiday Story Time

-There is a table in the little kids' area Vicki would like to put activities on. She passed around different block type things. Travis had ideas and will pass to Vicki.

-Vicki wanted to let the Board know costs on different items used in the library are going up. Things like Scotch tape and labels. Cheapest is at Staples. Also, the electric bill has gone up.