

**Belmar Public Library  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
December 12, 2023  
Minutes**

Present: Jimmy Alvarez, Bruce Blattner, Darleen Havens, Pat Hutchinson, Caridad Pineiro-Scardato, Johanna Roper-Robinson, Sharon Russell-Fowler

Absent: Danielle Arnold, Mayor Mark Walsifer, Bill Young

Also present: David Hallman

Attendees pledged allegiance to the flag.

Ms. Havens made a motion to approve the November minutes and Ms. Pineiro seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Havens reported:

Budget Amount	\$684,677.00	
Spent to date	\$331,910.03	
Waiting to pay vendor	\$36,443.12	
STD & Waiting	\$368,353.15	
Balance of Budget	\$316,323.85	
Budget Amount	\$684,677.00	
Amount Spent	\$368,353.15	
Balance	\$316,323.85	
		54%

### Report from the Department Head

1. Mr. Hallman announced that the borough is planning to erect a sculpture in honor of David Sanctious, an original member of the E Street Band, in Pyanoe Plaza. The organizers of this project delivered a wall sculpture/sign and requested that it be permanently installed in the library. Mr. Alvarez moved that we accept the sign and Darlene Havens seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.
2. Mr. Hallman reported that the architectural work on the windows and exterior surface of the building will have to go out to bid, since earlier bids will no longer apply.

The board will need to encumber money for capital expenses. We can roll over an additional 20% of what we have spent for the year.

3. Friday, Dec. 16 the Library will hold its Children's Christmas Movie Party. Movie is: *The Year without Santa Claus*.
4. The new class on Senior Tech Support will begin January 5. Ryan McGrath, BES IT specialist, will instruct.
5. Mr. Hallman announced that Ms. Arnold and Mr. Young have both resigned from the board. He suggested that a smaller board of seven members might be more appropriate for the Belmar Library, particularly since we have rarely had all positions filled and are often left with an even number of trustees. He will explore this idea.

### New Business:

Mr. Blattner suggested that we might want to get a plaque for Bill Young in recognition of his years of service. Ms. Robinson questioned whether there was a precedent for this kind of recognition. After some discussion, Mr. Blattner moved that the board establish a means of recognizing 10 years of service. Ms. Russell-Fowler seconded. The motion was passed unanimously. Mr. Blattner noted that a proclamation from the Mayor and Council might be a good option.

Public Session:

Ms. Anita Peccorelli attended the meeting and had several questions.

- Will the proposed work on the windows include repair or replacement of the deteriorating wooden frames around the windows. Mr. Hallman informed her that it will.
- How are new e-books chosen, when and by whom? Mr. Hallman informed her that we now lease new books every month, including adult fiction, best sellers, large print, etc. The library staff review the offerings and choose the titles.

Ms. Peccorelli asked if all present had received mailings about the Anchor Property Tax relief program for home owners and renters. It appears that not all eligible residents have received applications, and she asked that the library help get the word out about eligibility.

With no further business, Ms. Roper-Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Alvarez seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm. The next meeting will be held on January 9, 2023,

Draft submitted by Pat Hutchinson, 01/04/23