



*Taunton Public Library*  
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## Taunton Public Library

### Minutes for the January 18, 2023 Meeting

Present: William Hanna, Ted Gay, Kevin Downing

Staff: Linda Coelho, Director; Bridget Daugherty-Costa; Ligia Medeiros, Chief of Staff

Mr. Downing called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

The December 2022 minutes were presented. Mr. Gay made a motion to accept. Dr. Hanna seconded the motion and the Board approved.

The December 2022 financial report was reviewed. Mr. Gay made a motion to accept. Dr. Hanna seconded the motion and the Board approved.

The December 2022 circulation report was reviewed. Mr. Gay made a motion to accept. Dr. Hanna seconded the motion and the Board approved.

#### **New Business:**

- This January all current trustees were reappointed by the Taunton City Council for a three-year term. The trustees are required to visit the city clerk's office to get sworn in at the beginning of each term.
- This past Saturday there were protesters at the Southcoast LGBTQ+'s Drag Queen Story Hour with Monica Moore here at the Taunton library. Ms. Daugherty-Costa recounted her scary experience of witnessing a disguised group entering the library wearing NSC-131 insignia and disrupting Monica Moore's story time. There were roughly 30 protestors outside when 10 or so made it inside the building. The group outside held a large hand-lettered sign that read "drag queens are pedophiles" while the ones that made it through to the auditorium disrupted Monica with exclamations like "you're a pedophile" and "you are grooming these kids." The group is known for this type of behavior, and has held the same signage during Fall River's December LGBTQ+ event. They are known for disruption and intimidation during events and programs that they disagree with. The Taunton Police Department were made aware of protesters at this event and were already at the library when protesters arrived. We are working with the Mayor's office and the Police department to discuss how to better handle protesters at the library for future events.

#### **Old Business:**

- The patron services II position has been filled with an internal promotion of Mr. Miranda. Mr. Miranda has worked in the reference department for several years and has the experience necessary to fulfill the duties of the patron services II librarian.
- Three rooms of carpeting have been successfully installed. We were able to move and adapt work spaces to cause the least amount of work disruption. Technical services department absorbed the circulation department for that week as to cause no delay in circulation both within the library and interlibrary loan.

**Friends' Report:** The January book sale went very well which will allow the Friends' to continue to fund many library programming.

**Correspondence:** none

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be held **Wednesday, February 15, 2023**

Respectfully submitted by Linda Coelho