

Denville Public Library
Diamond Spring Road
Denville, NJ 07834

The Board of Trustees of the Denville Public Library met in a special session on Saturday, January 22, 2022 at the Denville Township Council Chambers. The President, Mr. Johnson, called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

Mr. Johnson announced that adequate notice of this meeting was posted in the library and was provided to the Denville Municipal Clerk, The Citizen, and the Daily Record no later than last Tuesday in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL: Present: Seth Johnson
Susan Dyer
Michael Dunn
Kevin Borecki
Tom Andes, Mayor
Linda Breder

Also Present: Siobhan Koch, Library Director
Anne Puppo
Glenn Buie
Angela Cote
Harry Fahrer
Gary Borowiec (via phone)
Christopher Golinski, Council Representative
Christina Kovacs
John Murphy
Steve Ward
Tara Pettoni
Jessica Falce
Public

Absent: Robert Unrath

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Johnson provided opening remarks about the past year including the accomplishments and the challenges faced by the Library. He thanked the Town Council, Township employees, Library Staff, the Friends of the Library, the patrons and Library Director, Siobhan Koch. He also pointed out the slide show that was playing on the screen in the background. Ms. Koch provided an overview of the year. The pandemic continued to challenge the Library in 2021. Staff continued to think outside the box in order to service our patrons in the safest ways possible. Virtual programming continued and in person programming returned with social distancing and capped participation. Curbside pickup is continuing for library materials, printouts and for take home craft kits. She complimented the Library staff for what they were able to accomplish during the time. Ms. Koch referenced the slide show for more information about the Library's programs over the past year.

- Ms. Koch was the President of MAIN in 2021.
- The staff is dedicated to providing free, quality programming to the residents of Denville.
- Programs fill up on a regular basis and our Take and Make Kits have been extremely popular.
- The Denville Municipal Alliance gave \$500 towards adult meditation programs and to begin the spice club for adults.
- The Denville Clean Communities bought an additional 500 small totes for the Library.
- Home Depot donated a wheelbarrow, 4 tomato cages, 5 bags of garden soil and 45 bags of premium topsoil to the Library's Book Worms Gardening Club for the plot in the Community Garden.
- The Friends of the Library donated \$1,000 for e-books/e-audiobooks, \$1,500 for large print books, \$1,800 for programming and \$1,700 for duplicate copies of popular titles for the Library.
- The Library was awarded an ARPA grant from the State Library for \$14,473.17 for laptops and iPad minis and associated materials.
- The Library was awarded an Emergency Grant from the State Library for \$20,000 for repairs and replacement of items damaged during Hurricane Henri.
- The Library began a Library of Things collection. This includes a telescope, metal detector, slide & negative converter, VHS to DVD converter, bike repair kit, ukulele, board games and outdoor games. This has been very popular and more items were purchased in December that will be added to the collection in 2022.
- Patrons were requesting fiction books in Spanish so the Library purchased a small collection in December that is now available.
- PressReader was a new e-newspaper and e-magazine vendor for the library through MAIN in 2021. Denville will continue with this service in 2022. This provides national and international resources.
- Hoopla was added in April of 2021. It is a service that provides ebooks, eaudio, ecomics, movies, television shows and music.
- The Museum Pass program continued to be effected by the pandemic with various closures and restrictions. Some do require proof of vaccination to use the pass. However, the people that utilized the passes were pleased with them. The passes the Library now has are Intrepid, Morris Museum, Montclair Art Museum, Storm King, Yogi Berra Museum, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and the Children's Museum of Manhattan.
- The Library continued with Brainfuse's trio of products HelpNow, JobNow, and VetNow. The State Library ended up paying for HelpNow for all NJ libraries. These resources provide live help from 2pm to 11pm every night. HelpNow provides live tutoring, JobNow provides live resume, cover letter and unemployment help, and VetNow provides live assistance with veteran's benefits.
- Repairs to the building this year included repairs to the toilets, repairs to the HVAC and repairs to the roof.

2022 Where Are We Going?

- MAIN decided to change its ebook and eaudiobook vendor to Libby from CloudLibrary. The change took effect on January 3rd. The titles that were purchased in CloudLibrary by the libraries in the consortium will all be transferred to Libby. This process should be completed by the end of the month. Libby provides for emagazines as well.
- MAIN has also implemented a new discovery layer on the catalog called Aspen that will be more user friendly and hopefully make searching easier for our patrons. It can be accessed by visiting

<https://denville.aspendiscovery.org>. We will be modifying it over time as the trainings for customization are available.

- The Board is considering what direction we will be going in now that the Library was not awarded a construction grant. Obviously, the issues that were going to be rectified by the expansion/remodel still remain. The plumbing continues to be an ongoing issue. The space constraints both for programming and our collection are still there and when it comes to programming even worse due to the pandemic. The Library still needs quiet study areas and lines of sight to be improved. These will not be resolved in one year but the budget does include some changes: It includes the estimated costs to remove the tree and the playhouse in children's and the reference desk and computer bank in the adult section. These will open up some additional space. We will be moving our computers from desktop to laptops thanks to the ARPA funding. This will allow people to borrow a laptop and take it to any seat in the Library. Estimates to address the ongoing plumbing issues will be considered for a draw down on the Library's capital improvement account. Initial estimates to fix the plumbing lines are for over \$200,000. Additionally, we look forward to continued efforts with the town to address the issues with the Library's roof. The Board will continue to explore possibilities as they arise.
- We will continue to do outreach where possible. The Oaks and Cook's Pond are allowing book groups and pop-ups. We will look for more ways to provide outreach to our residents.
- Programming will continue both virtually and in-person depending on the program. In-person is limited by space constraints. When possible the Library will continue to use the Township's outdoor areas or utilize the Library after hours to provide programming for a larger number of attendees. We will continue to try to team with local businesses and organizations to provide programming that meets the needs of the community. Take and Make Kits for children will continue. Adult craft programs are in person this year.
- Promoting all of our digital content will be a priority this year. We have Libby (ebook, eaudio, emagazine) , Brainfuse – HelpNow, JobNow, VetNow (live help for tutoring, veteran's resources, unemployment resources and resume help), PressReader (enewspaper & emagazine), Hoopla (ebook, eaudio, ecomics, movies, television shows, and music), Consumer Reports, Mometrix (test prep), Rosetta Stone (language learning), Heritage Quest (genealogy), Legal Information Reference Center, Reference Solutions (formerly ReferenceUSA) (US Business database), Small Business Reference Center and even more.
- Donate items for our programming through our Amazon Wishlist – <https://a.co/5smX4la>. Also, sign up for our adult programming and youth services programming newsletters from our website www.denvillelibrary.org. Follow us on our Instagram and Facebook pages to see what is happening at the Library. The strategic plan for the Library can also be found on the website.

Budget

Ms. Koch reviewed the budget and addressed some questions from the Town Council.

Mayor restated that the Library did not receive the grant funding but that they still have the same needs. He mentioned an opportunity for a joint venture with the Township to possibly utilize the Two Room Schoolhouse for Library meeting room space. This will be explored with a joint committee in the future.

Steve Ward stated that the Town Budget that will be presented at a later date will include funding for the flat roof repair estimated at \$55,000 and drywells to eliminate the flooding and icing that the Library is currently experiencing.

PUBLIC:

A motion was made by Ms. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Borecki, to open the Public portion of the meeting.

Charley Botti of 73 Mount Pleasant Turnpike, Denville NJ stated that using the Schoolhouse is a good idea.

A motion was made by Ms. Dyer, seconded by Mr. Borecki, to close the Public portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Borecki, seconded by Ms. Dyer, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 am. A voice vote indicated all present in favor with no opposition expressed.

Michael Dunn, Secretary