

Berlin Free Town Library
2024 Annual Meeting minutes
January 6, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:02

Roll call--present: Doug, Jeff, Star, Deb, Stacey; absent: Sara; public: Nancy

1) Vote on Star Donovan and Jeff Bell as Trustees with five year terms--

Motion 2500 by Doug and second by Stacey to install Star in a five-year term passed by voice consensus.

Motion 2501 by Doug and second by Deb to install Jeff in five-year term passed by voice consensus.

2) Vote to approve the 2025 slate of officers, as nominated at the December meeting:

President: Doug North; Vice President: Deb Toppeta; Treasurer: Stacey Hills;

Secretary: Cristi Lamontagne.

Motion 2502 by Doug and second by Deb passed by voice consensus.

3) Motion 2503 by Doug and second by Stacey to approve the budget for 2025 passed by voice consensus.

Discussion of annual appeal and donations being separate or together. Discussion of breaking down payroll into director's pay and other staff pay.

Director's Report

- There was a 16% increase in circulation form last year.
- Our total digital usage was down 8% from 2023, with a decrease in ebooks and periodicals and an increase in audiobooks and videos. Since 2019, the number of juvenile and young adult digital circulation has increased significantly.
- Spending for Hoopla was \$727.66, and with our minimum annual contribution for econtent of \$997.31, it might be wise to have a budget line specifically for econtent as opposed to grouping it with UHLS fees as it has been done in the past.
- Our patron visits remained steady this year. Moving up the opening time to 1 P.M. two afternoons a week seems to be a favorable time for patrons. It would be good to have one evening time slot of staying open past 6 P.M. to accommodate evening programs and for those who don't get back from work until after 6 P.M.
- Overall, we did well with our program numbers and attendance with two specifically bringing in larger numbers (Photo Contest Reception and VIA

Aquarium). Sara would like to see an increase in our adult teen programs with the possibility of having one peer-led program. I would also like to have a monthly tech help time for people to come by with their devices to ask questions and receive help.

Motion 2504 to adjourn by Deb and second by Star at 7:31.