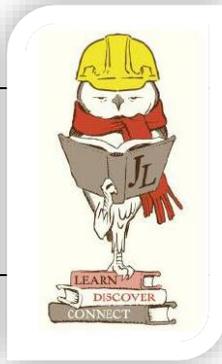

**The Jones Library, Inc.
Board of Trustees**



**Friday, March 11, 2022
4:45pm; ZOOM**

Agenda

ADVISORY TO THE PUBLIC: This special Library Trustee meeting will occur virtually via ZOOM and will be streamed live here:

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
When: Mar 11, 2022 04:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Jones Library, Inc. Board of Trustees

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://amherstma.zoom.us/j/82425016141>

Or One tap mobile :

US: +16468769923,,82425016141# or +13017158592,,82425016141#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968

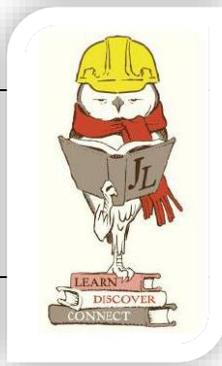
Webinar ID: 824 2501 6141

International numbers available: <https://amherstma.zoom.us/u/kdFKgDNLei>

1. Call to Order/Attendance
2. **Library Mask Mandate** (Sharry) *
3. Adjourn

* Indicates Handout(s) Will be Made Available.

RED Indicates Vote Required.



Proposed Motions

I. Library Director Motion (Proposed):

MOTION: The Board approves the Library Director's recommendation to lift the Library's mask mandate in all three Library Buildings in tandem with the Town of Amherst.

II. Library Director Motion (Proposed):

MOTION: The Board approves the Library Director's recommendation to maintain the 50% capacity limits in the Library's meeting rooms and the Branches, as well as the prohibition of food and drink in the Library's meeting rooms.

~~~~~

Based on the Amherst Health Director's recommendation, the Amherst Board of Health will be voting on whether to lift the Town's mask mandate as of 4pm on Friday, March 11, 2022. If this motion passes, the Schools will lift their mandate as of Monday, March 14, 2022. Because the Library staff are already having a difficult time enforcing the Library's mask mandate, we feel the policy will be exponentially more difficult to enforce if our Town partners do not have the same requirement.

Because we serve patrons who cannot be vaccinated for one reason or another, we also recommend maintaining capacity limits in the meeting rooms and the Branches; our goal is to resume in-person programming this spring, but want to do so safely.

The Town is moving to a "personal responsibility" model regarding mask-wearing. We are all being encouraged to make the best decision for ourselves and our families, and at the same time, to not judge others for making a decision that is different from our own.

According to the Health Director, there are several reasons for lifting the mandate at this time:

- The community's vaccination rate is high.
- Children ages 5-12 have now been vaccinated.
- The science surrounding the virus has improved; we are now wearing better masks and we know that proper ventilation is important.
- The data shows transmission of the virus occurs during social gatherings (i.e., holiday parties) and not while people are out-and-about in the community (i.e., at the grocery store or in libraries).

The Library would continue to offer free masks for the public; the Town is continuing to offer free masks to staff; and the plexiglass will remain at our service desks.

\* Indicates Handout(s) Will be Made Available.

**RED** Indicates Vote Required.