

Town of Collins Public Library Board of Trustees – Safety Committee Meeting

Agenda: Monday, July 12, 2021 @ 2 pm

Held via GoToMeeting: Present: Director Abbie Barten-McGowan, Trustees Barb Ferro, Edith Schell, Rob Gaylord

1. Called to order at 2 pm.

Rob was early.

2. Updates

- Metrics: Rates of cases in Collins and Gowanda have been staying low and steady, Abbie has been monitoring them weekly. However Collins remains the lowest vaccination rate in the county. Gowanda is one of the lowest levels in NYS.
- Abbie noted the rate of vaccination in Collins zip code (14034) was only 34.3% of the 20+ population as of the last reported numbers. (Collins, Gowanda, and Collins Center are 3 of the 5 worst zip codes in the county.) She contacted the Library System to ask about maintaining our masking requirement due to this fact, and they said it would be justified. Abbie continues to monitor the rates.
 - Abbie has had comments on both sides, praising us for keeping the masks because it helps them feel safe bringing their kids in, and wondering why we're doing it when other libraries aren't.
 - Gowanda Library is not requiring masks for vaccinated individuals.
- Review of safety and reopening plans and any updated state guidance.
 - Discussion of opening the meeting room to outside groups. (This is a state minimum standard.) The application says that they must adhere to the Rules of Conduct, which currently covers wearing face masks. There isn't much demand currently for the meeting room, and there is limited space, so some of our regular groups aren't able to return.
- Rob suggested having literature ready for patrons who question our keeping the mask requirement.

3. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.