



Trustees of The Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library



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Liz McConnell, Chair Melody Santos, Treasurer Tom Walker, Secretary Melissa Bertoulin Megan Schneider

Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 08, 2024

Trustees attending: Liz McConnell, Tom Walker, Melody Santos, Melissa Bertoulin, Megan Schneider

From the Library: Janice Wiers - Library Director, Kiki Donis-Wahl - Assistant Director/ Youth Librarian

Others:

Alternate Trustees: Susan Lunn

Public: Tracy Descoteux, Jake Descoteux, Jeff Donald

Liz McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On a motion from Melody, with a second by Megan the 12/04/2023 meeting minutes were unanimously accepted with. Liz - aye, Melissa - aye, Tom - aye, Melody - aye, Megan - aye.

On a motion from Melody, with a second by Megan the 12/04/2023 Non-public meeting minutes were unanimously accepted with. Liz - aye, Melissa - aye, Tom - aye, Melody - aye, Megan - aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jeff Donald introduced himself and talked about why he is interested in running for library trustee.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Janice submitted her Director's Report to the trustees in advance of the meeting as usual for review. Also included were the Youth Librarian's Report, Check Register, Profit and Loss Statement, and Salaries Report. Website traffic, and social media followers continue to grow. Facebook followers increased to 740, Instagram followers to 573. There were 1053 in-person visits this month. There were 718 visits to the library website with 1302 page views. There were 9 new library card holders added, eight adults and one child. 78 books and 36 other media were added to the collection this month. Udemy Business statistics were not available in time for this meeting. Digital borrowings broke records again this month with 556 Libby and 259 Hoopla borrows. The Friends' sponsored Santa visit was a huge success, Liz and library staff helped with the set up and take down. The book club had a strong

showing with 8 participants even though it was held off-site in a busy restaurant. The Friends' group bought and installed new shades for library windows. Upcoming programs will include a Town Meeting vs SB2 information night and a historical look at television use as a society. With the amphitheater project in full swing parking may be an issue as building materials are being stored in parking spaces. This also impacts snow removal as there are fewer places to push snow. For the biggest storm so far this year Wayne had to use a front end loader to solve this issue. Library Page Shayla Gerkin will have a poem published in a book of NH youth poets, congratulations Shayla!

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/ YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN REPORT:

Kiki submitted her report in writing prior to the meeting. This storytime session wrapped up in the middle of December and was well attended with 174 participants. There were two all ages sessions and one for toddlers only. The Lego Club was well attended with 9 participants. The Chef Misa cooking program is on hiatus due to the amphitheater construction blocking access to the kitchen in the basement. Little Kid's Yoga with Rachel Brown had 5 children attend. 12 craft kits were built this month. Mrs. Bradley's Swasey class visited the library for a talk about the history of one room school houses. Historical Society members Laura Hajjar and Linda Rousseau brought artifacts from the museum collection for show and tell. Looking forward Kiki is planning a Book Club Without Books program to engage 5th to 8th graders. The focus will be about reading and books in general.

OLD BUSINESS:

Amphitheater: Work is well underway, Trimmers is giving Janice weekly updates on work progress. The septic system piping was slightly higher than anticipated so a change was made to the elevation of the wall in that area and plantings will be changed to low growing varieties. Some septic system pipes had to be relocated.

Budget: The proposed library budget was approved by both the Select Board and Budcom.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Eppes-Jefferson grant application for the amphitheater project will go forward now that construction has started and funding is firmed up. Alternate Trustees now need to reapply each year. Kip Kaiser recommended Blue Collar Work Horse LLC for the replacement of the front and rear decks. The front deck was stabilized for now and will be further evaluated in the spring. The bank that the library uses was bought out and the new bank is quickly raising fees. Melody will explore the possibility of switching banks. Tanya Violette was hired as the new library assistant and will start 1/10/24. Deb O'connor will be hired as a substitute and is just waiting on the results of the background check to start training.

Liz adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Next meeting: Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Tom Walker - Board Secretary