



Board of Library Trustees

Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, 2 Lake Street, Webster, MA

Minutes for Thursday, October 12, 2023

In Attendance

Board of Trustees Vice Chair Rich Franas, Treasurer Martina Koziak, Secretary, Jeanne Mikels. Also, in attendance Evan Hale, Assistant Director and Clerk. Sue Buehler attended virtually. Meeting called to order at 5:33PM. Evelyn Pappas arrived at 6:03PM. Absent were Chair Rena Klebart, Mary Chabot and Sondra Murphy.

Approval of Minutes

Martina moved to approve the minutes from September 14th; Jeannie seconded. Roll Call Vote: Martina – aye, Sue – aye, Jeanne – aye, Rich – aye.

Reports

Director's Report

Evan provided an overview of the Director's Report pointing out the Lucky Day Collection has started and proven to be quite popular. The Strategic Plan was submitted to and approved by the MBLC and becomes effective with FY25 (July 2024). The Annual Report is finished. As periodical reading decreases, these materials will move to the Lobby, leaving the current space to be converted to use as maker/coworking space, potentially equipped with a 3D printer and Mac computer for creative endeavors. Grant planning is in process. Evan and Randa attended a conference where they actively pursued tools for using data to advocate for staff and to judge effectiveness of programs. Evan's personal goal is tech literacy for seriously challenged individuals, having already applied for a grant to purchase 20 laptops for show, tell and learn. Once basic computer awareness has been achieved, there may be expansion into teaching software programs.

Warrants and Financial Reports

Martina spoke about the financial reports saying our spend is on-track at 25.7% for the first quarter.

Friends Update

The Library Friends held their well-attended Annual meeting on September 21st. Paul Laframboise, Friends President introduced Guest Speaker Joseph Iamartino, the current President of the Thompson Historical Society, who spoke about Native American Nipmuc Lithic Artifacts in Central New England. Following the presentation, Paul introduced returning Board Members Paul, Sue Buehler, Allison Carcini, Pat Nectow and Stephen Place, thanked outgoing members Cindy Nagle and Elaine Davies for their service, and introduced proposed new Board members – Liz Gray, Judy Keegan, Annemarie Palermo and Robin River. All returning and proposed Board Members were unanimously elected. Next meeting will be Thursday October 19th, reflecting the shift to 3rd Thursday of the month meetings.

Unfinished Business

Strategic Planning: Year 1 Action Plan

Brief review this month. Plan on an in-depth review at the next meeting.



Trust Fund Proposal: Screens for collection desk windows

Staff is currently favoring shades, obtaining quotes is the next step..

Collection Policy and Request for Reconsideration – 2nd Reading

Brief review. A suggestion was made to add “and surrounding towns” in Category Selection Criteria 3rd from the bottom. If a book is challenged, it cannot be challenged again for 4 years. Final vote next meeting.

New Business

Trust Fund Proposal: Book Binding and Book Covering

This is related to the sustainability issue in the Strategic Plan. Currently, book repair, book covering and repair of DVDs and CDs is a very time-consuming process resulting in limited increased life expectancy. Purchase of an e-DaVinci for book covers, Cover One spine repair and VenMill Hybrid disc repair equipment at a cost \$3,796.20 would make repairs far more efficient, reduce waste and allow us to offer book covering to patrons. Martina moved to fund this expense from Trust funds; Jeanne seconded. Roll Call Vote: Martina – aye, Evelyn – aye, Sue – aye, Jeanne – aye, Rich – aye.

Adjournment

Martina moved to adjourn; Sue seconded. Roll Call Vote: Martina – aye, Evelyn – aye, Sue – aye, Jeanne – aye, Rich – aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Mikels, Secretary

Exhibits (to be posted on the Library Website)

Director’s Report
Financial Reports

Minutes Approved: 11-03-2023