

## FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

July 11, 2024

Present: Cardwell, Haldas, Astin, Larsen, O'Brien, Andrea Kaye, Fowler

Absent: Burton, Hochstetter, Regan

Call to order: 4:05 pm

David Fowler was introduced as a new trustee.

Audience for Citizens: Mark and Beverly Davis discussed the first concert in the music series on July 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and wanted to know more about the PR for the event. There is a rain date for the following week. Mark asked about flyers and the check for the musicians. The check has been cut. He hopes the board will attend.

Seating of alternates: None

Approval of minutes: Andrea made a motion to approve the minutes of June 13, 2024, O'Brien seconded and motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Rich handed out the Reconciliation Detail and went over the Balance sheet. There were several questions about the entries and final balances. Bonnie will ask Shane Navratil about the payment to the Fire Control Services and getting a better return on the Vanguard account and uncleared transactions. Still some uncleared checks that need clarification.

A motion was made to investigate a better return on Vanguard account. David made a motion to move on this and Rich seconded. Motion carried.

Bonnie reported that Eversource will not do an audit on a business account. The electric bill is still very high. Direct Energy went from 6 cent to 13 cents. The distribution rate is too high. The short term plan is to have John switch off the hot water tank to access if that is possibly where the electricity is going or maybe it could be the well pump.

Asst. librarian: Sonja reported that Mark Tripoli cleaning has raised his rate from \$130.00 to \$170.00. The cleaning is satisfactory at this time. Sonja inquired about the Butterfly brochures and if more could be ordered. Bonnie will investigate. They were from the Pollinator Pathway program. Sonja reported that Deb's farewell party was well attended and the cake and goodies went over well. Deb received lots of gifts and accolades.

Library Director: Sonja gave out the June librarian report from Sarah Boyd. Total number of patrons in was 629. Volunteer hours for June 151.25. The tag sale had over 150 people over the two days. Will ask about the proceeds. The Summer Reading program will start from July 14 – August 17<sup>th</sup> with prizes. Looking for participants. So far 5 children and 4 adults have signed up. Suggested PR for the Summer Reading program to put on the website with a banner. Bonnie will ask Jannice Trecker. FML will receive a portion of BIG Y bags for July. All the programs are up and running and well attended. Stacey Gendreau's Top Shelf Gallery will continue into July. So far \$725.00 in donations from Phyllis Stensland dedicated memorial fund.

New Business: O'Brien reported on The Top Shelf Gallery--- Susan Graseck will be showing in August and Alice Kuzel in October. The HES art teacher has left for a full-time job in Killingly so the children's art exhibit in November/December has not been planned. Very difficult to get artists in Nov. and Dec.

Party for Deb was a success. Sue gave the Trustee's gift to her---garden chimes that were engraved. Discussed 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary party on Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>. Janice is working on printing a booklet with the history of the library and could be accessed on the website. Color printing is too expensive but maybe just the front page. There will be invitations sent out to about 30 people. Hope that Deb has set up dignitaries to be there. Bonnie will take on writing thank you notes and Janice as our Communications Director will do website, posters and PR. Bonnie would like to see a book plate in the books in memory of Phyllis Stensland donations. Sonja said we have some labels to put inside the cover.

No Trustee meeting in August. Bonnie will be away for 2 weeks in August.

Voted to have our new trustee David Fowler take on Treasurers position from Rich Haldas. David is a CPA. A motion was made by Andrea and seconded by Rich Haldas. Motion carried.

Vote on Susan Hochstetter to be Recording Secretary from Mark Davis who resigned from the Board. David made a motion to have Susan take the position on and Rich Haldas seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion on the painting of one side of the building that is peeling. Rich Haldas pointed out that the plantings are too close to the building and perhaps just a soft power wash is all that is needed to for mold on the building. It was decided that cleaning and pruning back the plants should be explored. Stump grinding agenda item has been delayed until next meeting.

David Fowler mentioned that Tai Chi is on Friday mornings at 8:30am, not on Thursdays as the Chronicle has it listed. Also, change contact info. Marcia has contact list.

John reported that Palace e-book catalogue is now part of the library. There is an app you can download. He thought running an intro page about the program could be put in the Gazette to explain What is an e-book? etc.

Bonnie offered to help Andrea with the Harvest Festival. Lawn signs are being amended and a new poster will be made. Bonnie will help with getting applications to the vendors.

Motion to adjourn made by Larsen, seconded by O'Brien at 5:27pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Kaye, Acting secretary