



Jonathan Trumbull Library

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Jonathan Trumbull Library

May 17th, 2018

Regular Meeting – Board of Trustees

Present: Cathe McCall, Diane McCall, Maureen McCall, Mary Withey, Judy Vertefeuille, Berkeley Nowosad and Colleen Meese and Library Directors Matt Earls and Linda Slate
Absent: Eilleen Weinstein and Michelle Kersey

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by the chairman, Cathe McCall.

Minutes to the April 19th, 2018 meeting – Motion (Diane McCall/Judy Vertefeuille) to accept the minutes as presented. The minutes were accepted with none opposed and two abstentions.

Correspondence – None

Director's Report – Matt reported.

- Adult programs - Yoga night had better attendance than last month. Game nights and the Beekeeper events were also adult programs. The beekeeper was pricey so Matt hopes to find less expensive programs. There are programming funds available from HTA but he wants to use it wisely and have money for computer classes in the fall. He has a friend who is a Constitution lawyer and plans on scheduling him for next month.
- Overdrive - A nice bump was seen in stats – it is too soon to tell if the changes Matt is making are having an impact.
- Friends of JTL have voted to buy the library a button maker, a green screen and lights, support for the Escape Room, (items to be used to encourage teens) and will provide baskets as prizes for summer reading. JTL will also supplement these baskets with some of the older Ipads and Samsung Galaxies.
- The library is having problems with the propane heat again. Also, there are mice and they are becoming bolder. Jason Nowosad will call pest control and the handyman will fill an obvious mouse hole.
- *Murder at JTL* – Matt and crew are planning an epic escape room here and hope it will be the talk of the town. He wants to launch a teen group and hopes to organize a leadership group of 8th graders to create programming. In on the planning: Margaret Kurnyk, Genevieve Nowosad, Kate Slavinski, Linda Slate, Claire Levesque-McKinney and also

Berkeley Nowosad who volunteered as she knows many youngsters of the right age. Linda suggested Amy Reynolds as a resource as well.

- Lynn Frazier, the librarian at the Lebanon Elementary, invited Matt to read stories and meet some of the kids. She has challenged the entire school to get a library card of their own and so far we've gotten 39 new card applications and we've only been at this for a week. Matt was at LES today to read to students and he expects that we will do another 50 applications for library cards this week. The collection at LES is old and Lynn doesn't have much of a budget. Matt is hoping that we can make some donations from either the book sale or from items we weed from our collection. To promote the library and reading, Matt promised the 2nd graders a luau in August if they get 90% signed up for library cards.
- One of the most effective ways to increase reading in some children is to have them read aloud to dogs. Linda noted that this had been done at one time and was successful.
- Matt attended an informative New Directors' meeting. He spoke with Tom at Haddam who added a day to the his library schedule. Tom recommended patience - It took him two years.
- LHS Meeting - JTL will work with the museum on their Astronomy night program.
- Based on the Google "Popular Times" our busiest days are Thursday nights and Saturdays around noon. There don't seem to be any devices for counting patrons that we can borrow. Perhaps use of a cheap camera to count the traffic manually could be more accurate than any kind of electric eye. It would be good to give the library patrons full service and be opened on Friday but we can't do that without another 15 hour per week person. Discussion followed on how better to get statistics on library use and if it is possible to rearrange the current hours to allow for Friday hours. Matt noted that the downturn in library use is tied to the increase in the use of iPhones. Note that 285 items were borrowed from out of town patrons to add to the 4815 of April 2018. From July 1, 2017 to May 17, 2018 1,991 children have attended programs and 757 adults have attended adult programs for a total of 2,746.
- Lebanon Life has the calendar of the JTL programs offered.
- Programs:
 - The *Autism Discussion group* had 8 attendees at its first session and Matt expects to see more next time – June 5th at 6:30.
 - *Settlers of Catan* will be played on Game Night, June 7th at 6:00
 - *Hot Chicks with Sticks* – June 4th and 18th at 6:30
 - First Tuesday Film – *The Post* - June 5th at 2:00
 - Book Discussion – June 12th at 6:30, *A Furnace Afloat* by Joe Jackson – 20 Year Celebration of the Book Discussion Group
 - *The Resistance* on Game Night, June 14th at 6:00
 - New Movie Day added – *Same Kind of Different As Me* – June 20th at 1:00
 - *Constitution Conversation* with Howie Blau – June 25th at 6:30
 - First Tuesday Film – *Wonder* July 3rd at 2:00
 - Artist of the Month – Brian Taylor
- Adopt an Author – please consider adopting an author in honor of a friend or loved one

Young People's Director's Report – Linda distributed the June schedule of events including the usual *Time for Stories* and *Read, Rock & Rhyme*. There will be **Pokemon Club** on June 9th, **Homeschoolers Making Steam** on June 13th, a **Father's Day Craft** on June 16th, **Lego Building** on June 20th, **Movie & Popcorn: Peter Rabbit** on June 25th, **Chris Lengyl Magic** on June 26th, **Library Rocks** on June 27th and 28th. **Dancin' with Hoops with Judi Ann Jones** on June 28th and **Ninjago Club** on June 30th. Linda went to the CLA conference and attended sessions on Building a Pre-reading Collection for Emergent Readers, Building a Kids Art Program, Puppet

Play, Story Walks and Connecting Youth and Seniors. She was amused at youth doing face makeovers for seniors and found it interesting that some of the seniors were planning to use a resulting picture for their obituaries. Linda completed a webinar of new Teen books and found that we have some of the books discussed but plans on ordering a few of the others mentioned. The 2018 Summer Reading Program is **Libraries Rock** and will be held from June 25th to August 13th. To that effort, Linda completed a Wandoo Summer Reading Software webinar and has begun building programs for all grades. LMS is interested in promoting the software this year. Multiple copies of books from LMS and Lyman High reading lists will be on display for easier selection. LES doesn't have a specific book list this year.

Bylaws – Nothing to report.

Budget – As a result of Board of Finance decisions, motion (Maureen McCall/Mary Withey) to adopt a revised proposed budget of \$348,099 with a town appropriation of \$290,632 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The motion carried with none opposed.

Personnel – The committee will meet on June 5th at 6:00 to begin the mid-year review for Matt Earls. Since the meeting room will be occupied, Cathe will find another place for the meeting and post it.

Library Trust Fund – Nothing more to report

Building Committee – The committee met last week and the selectmen gave an update on the status of the legal action. Matt said that the plan was for the engineer to do a septic design based on a report from Uncas Health. The test pits dug did not pass but then, they were done on the lowest portion of the property concerned. Negotiation is still being done. LHS may or may not join in the lawsuit with their own legal team paid by the HTA trust to go for the entire green and have the easement held by the Connecticut Historical Preservation Center so permission would have to go through them for whatever use anyone might be looking to use the Green for. Perhaps LHS could hold the easement. The situation has not gotten less complicated and all other parties have filed for extensions. It would be best if all parties concerned could get on the same page before the case goes before a judge to make the final decision easier. Discussion concerning the architectural designs followed. Matt has not yet seen either and the board doesn't have access to the most recent.

Friends of JTL – met on May 10th and Matt previously reported on their donations. Diane reported that books are being collected for the book sale. Matt sent updated information to Bookfinder. The Friends also made their usual donations towards passes to parks, etc. Judy commended Matt for his use of media to promote the library. Positive feedback has been heard around town on the publicity on the web.

Unfinished Business – Library Hour change already discussed

New Business – Nothing to report

Hearing no other business, motion made (Maureen McCall/Judy Vertefeuille) to adjourn at 7:58. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen D. McCall, Secretary