

Jonathan Trumbull Library
February 22, 2022
Regular Meeting – Board of Trustees
ZOOM

Present: Berkley Nowosad, Michelle Kersey, Janice Knudsen, Suzanne Nintean, Guthrie Dinda, Christine Hadyka; Eileen Weinstein; Cathe McCall, Bill Goba, Maggie Gaier and Library Director Matt Earls

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

Minutes:

- Motion (Eileen Weinstein/ Berkley Nowosad) to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2022 meeting. Motion carried with none opposed.

Librarian Reports:

Director's Report: Matt Earls reported.

- Board of Finance meeting to present Library budget is scheduled via zoom for Saturday, February 26, 2022 from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. Zoom link is available on the Town of Lebanon website.
- As we have fewer than 300 hospitalizations in CT (261), indoor programs will begin again. As of March 1, 2022, per Board of Selectman, masks will no longer be required in municipal buildings.
- Bylaw revisions to be discussed under Sub-committees/Special committees
- Letter received from Rene Wentworth regarding \$20,000 bequest from the estate of Winifred A. Jackson (dependent on survival of spouse).
- Next Friends of the Library meeting is scheduled for April 2022.
- Matt won free registration for the Portland PLA Conference for a savings of \$610. Matt attended the Connecticut Recreation Entertainment Exposition and hired a number of magicians, circus acts, and musicians for Summer Reading and other events. Matt also won free registration to the CT Recreation Conference in November 2022 at Mohegan Sun.
- Event Highlights to be discussed under Youth Service Librarian Report.
- Lebanon Life is now a completely digital format. Targeted mass mailings will be done in coordination of the Grand Opening. Due to the high "set up" cost, Matt will request assistance with sponsorship from the Friends. Claire has streamlined the process to make this a much easier undertaking.
- Leaky automatic faucet to be repairs.
- (1) employee has resigned. Shomriel Sherman, a current volunteer and poetry out loud leader has been hired by the Board of Selectman at their February 22, 2022 meeting.
- New teen volunteer starting this week.
- We are working on a summer enrichment grant from the CT State Library.
- Due to an issue regarding library services during a mental health crisis, we are looking into Mental Health First Aid Training for staff.

- Shelving and furniture for the new building has been selected and bids will be presented to the Building Committee on February 23, 2022. The choices are available for review at the Library.
- Jim Russo has requested the purchase of a new TV for the community room. Matt to review request with Jim regarding this being part of the building budget. Matt will also review request for two new desktop computers, one of which could be an iMac. Development of a Technology sub-committee to be considered.

Youth Services Librarian Report: Maggie Gaier reported.

- Event Highlights: Poetry Out Loud, Bundled Babies, Turtle Time, Valentine crafts (for here and to go).
- Bring Your Child to the Library Week, Mini Art Show, 75 kits, art submissions returned.
- Return of indoor, in-person programs in March 2022.
- 1000 Hours Outside launches for the Spring Equinox, Maggie's idea in pursuing library programs outside is if kids read/are read to, and they spend unstructured time outside, those two things lead to holistic development of the child and their family unit.
- Submissions for Friends of the Library log contest close March 1, 2022.
- Maggie to pursue Mental Health First Aid Training for staff.
- Maggie is writing a grant request to support the Summer Reading program and "reading as a daily habit".
-

Sub-committees/Special Committees:

- Bylaws (Open, Nintean, Knudsen, Weinsteger): Proposed bylaw revisions reviewed. Discussion held regarding parents being responsible for materials taken out by their children. Intent of statement reviewed: does this apply to the cost of materials if lost or to the content being appropriate for children to check out? Process for establishing new library cards will reiterate that parents are responsible for both the cost of materials lost and the content being appropriate for their child as well as a notice being posted at the circulation desk. Motion to accept proposed revisions made (Michelle Kersey/Eileen Weinsteiger). Motion carried with none opposed.
- Budget (Goba, Dinda, Nowosad, Hadyka): Proposed budget to be presented at special Board of Finance meeting on February 26, 2022.
- Personnel (Knudsen, Dinda, Weinsteiger, Kersey): (1) resignation; (1) new hire.
- Building Committee: See Director's report.

On-going Reporting

- Friends: Next meeting scheduled for April 2022.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Adjourned at 8:02 pm (motion by Janice Knudsen/Eileen Weinstein). Motion carried with none opposed.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2022.