

Jonathan Trumbull Library  
March 22, 2022  
Regular Meeting – Board of Trustees  
Conference Room, Town Hall

Present: Michelle Kersey, Janice Knudsen, Suzanne Nintean, Christine Hadyka; Eileen Weinstein; Cathe McCall; Berkley Nowosad; Maggie Gaier and Matt Earls

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Chair, Cathe McCall.

Minutes:

- Motion (Eileen Weinstein/Michelle Kersey) to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting with one correction under Director's report "Matt Earls reported" will be corrected to read "Maggie Gaier delivered Matt Earls' report". Motion carried with none opposed.

Public Comment: No public comment

Librarian Reports:

Director's Report: Matt Earls reported.

- Adult Programs FY 2021: Getting back to normal with in person programs: Trivia, Book Discussion, Yoga, Friends of the Library.
- Correspondence: \$400 donation received from Tony Begnino
- Friends of the Library: Friends meeting held April 21, 2022. Book Sale is on for 2022 and is scheduled for September 23 – 25, 2022.
- Meetings: Matt attended the Connecticut Library Association meeting; Bibliomation meeting and the Public Library Association conference. The conference was excellent with lots of professional development. It was inspiring and provided lots of ideas about programs, preparing for emergencies, a first amendment seminar, grand opening for new space vs. soft opening, design ideas, furniture ideas, etc. Total amount spent was \$1,261.50 out of the \$2300 allocated.
- Continuing Education: Matt requested to attend the American Library Association Conference in Washington, DC, staying under the allotted amount of \$2300 for the year thanks to Amtrak and staying with a friend. Moving forward, the expectation would be to attend one national conference a year and encouraging Maggie to attend as well (outside of Summer Reading period). Motion (Eileen Weinstein/Berkley Nowosad) to approve budget of up to \$1,039 to cover these expenses. Motion carried with none opposed.
- Event Highlights: (25) in attendance at the Friends April 21, 2022 meeting. Next meeting scheduled for June 2022. Friends logo contest submission deadline has been extended until June 2022. The Friends also made a generous \$2600 donation to the Library.
- Grants: The Library received a \$2000 grant from the State Library for enrichment, including funds for stipends for the teen volunteers (\$300 per volunteer).

- Grand Opening: Scheduled for Saturday August 20, 2022. Board members are encouraged to attend events that will be held all week long. Date and tentative plans to be reviewed with the Building Committee on 4/27/22. Ad Hoc Committee to be formed to assist with planning.
- Programs and Publicity: Mass mailing for the grand opening (and other events) will cost \$1100.
- Circulation: Circulation is still lower than pre-covid volumes but recovering, especially for the Children's Library materials.

Youth Services Librarian Report: Maggie Gaier reported.

- Youth Services Librarian granted \$10,000 from Town of Lebanon ARPA via Board of Selectmen. Funds which will go to Teen Mental Health First Aid training for YSL, additional trainings for staff, program materials for teens.
- Community Services Meeting with social workers, superintendent, first selectmen, senior center, clothing wardrobe, clergy. Great coordination to support the town with events and services.
- Program highlights: Monday story time with Shomriel has been a lovely exploration of Patricia Pollacco books, engaging in folk tales and artwork creating; seven families attended all four weeks, we will continue into May. Homeschool Fridays programs draw between a dozen and three dozen people weekly; Tiny Yogi two-three dozen weekly on Wednesdays (she will switch to Mondays in May and I'll take my time slot back for read rock and rhyme).
- Teen Poetry group invited to perform at Downtown Storrs Poetry Event this weekend, Saturday 12:30; we had open mic last week and the teen group we have here is something special!
- Passport to Libraries finishes up this week, Children's Book Week is next week
- May 14 and June 11 are collaborative events between JTL and LHS

Sub-committees/Special Committees:

- Budget (Goba, Dinda, Nowosad, Hadyka): Matt Earls reported. Overall spend is 93% of the funds allocated through the end of the third quarter. Line items reviewed. Of note, Utilities expense will be determined by 6/30/22 working with the Town to determine the amount owed for use of the Community Center. Income is at 127% of amount budgeted due to several generous donations. There is also a pending bequest with the final amount dependent on settlement of that estate. There is also \$900 in the Library Renovation line which will be spent on some miscellaneous items related to the new building including a TV, signs for shelving, etc.
- Personnel (Knudsen, Dinda, Weinstein, Kersey): no report
- Bylaws (Open, Nintean, Knudsen, Weinstein): no report
- Building Committee: See Director's report. Majority of inside and outside work completed. Shelving has been ordered. Cathe McCall to schedule walk through for Board members.
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On-going Reporting

- Friends: Next meeting scheduled for June 2022.

Unfinished Business

## New Business

- Discussion regarding recognizing Jim Russo's time and dedication to the new building's construction. Type of recognition to be further reviewed at next Board meeting.

Adjourned at 8:05 pm (motion by Eileen Weinstein/Michelle Kersey). Motion carried with none opposed.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2022.