

MADISON LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
DECEMBER 16, 2020 @ 3:30 PM  
JOHN F. CHICK ROOM  
APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Chair Cheryl Littlefield, John Filson, Mary Holmes, Bruce Kennedy, Karen Lord (via Zoom), Christina McAllister, Patti Rau (via Zoom), Linda Smith, Peter Stevens (via Zoom); Susan Lee, Friends of the Library (via Zoom); Sloane Jarell, Library Director

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Cheryl Littlefield called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 18, 2020 Regular Meeting: Motion by Bruce Kennedy to approve the minutes of 11-18-20, seconded by Christina McAllister. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: No report included in the board packet. Library Director Sloane Jarell said board members will receive the financial report directly from the Treasurer. Cheryl Littlefield said the Budget Drawdown looks very good. Sloane said there are still some bills that she has not received. She said we received some money that is related to the CARES funding. She said we have spent about \$1,300 on Covid-related expenses and we have been reimbursed \$276.00.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The board agreed that the statistics look very good. Sloane said that although December is usually a busy month with a lot of things going on, this month has been quiet. She said this has given us the opportunity to begin planning for next year. She said we have reached out to surrounding libraries and combined resources to provide programming for children, including teaming up with Green Mountain Conservation Group to offer weekly programming such as Nature Story and Discovery Time. She said that Gordy will take the next two weeks off and that she was hoping to take a little time off herself at the beginning of January. Mary Holmes noted that the Christmas tree lighting was delightful and other board members who attended agreed. Sloane said she believed that over 50 people attended and that it was a very fun and successful event.

GALLERY: Peter Stevens

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Susan Lee outlined upcoming programs for 2021: On January 14 the program will be "New England Lighthouses and the People who Keep Them," at 7:00 PM via Zoom; February is "Fierce Women"; March is "NH Roads"; April is "History of the Abenaki"; May is "Comics and Graphic Novels"; June is "Life Downstairs"; and July is "Rosie's Mom."

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee candidates (Karen Lord, Linda Drew Smith) (Alternates: Mary Holmes, Christina McAllister, and Peter Stevens): A reminder from Sloane that Trustee candidates need to sign up at the Town Office to run again between January 20-29, 2021 for the March election.

NEW BUSINESS

Minutes approved: January 20, 2021

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Meeting Room Pandemic Policy: The board agreed that the pandemic policy looked good.

Motion by Linda Smith to approve the pandemic meeting room policy, seconded by Bruce Kennedy. The motion passed unanimously.

Holidays: The board agreed to leave this as is and update on a yearly basis.

Where are we going in the next 1-2 years brainstorm (i.e., increased services, increased work space, expansion of physical space): John Filson said he asked to have this on the agenda for Trustees to think about for long-term planning. He said we ought to resolve to increase services to the patrons, streaming of videos or working with the co-op, for instance. Sloane said she had looked into some things such as Kanopy, which would have to be incorporated into our budget. Patti Rau suggested crafting a survey to give out when books are checked out, to see what people have on their minds for services. Christina McAllister asked if there would be a way to make the survey available to those who are not using the library, such as the Boulder Bulletin or in the newspaper. Peter Stevens suggested changes involving construction of the building, such as removing the back wall and having a stage facing the main sitting area. He said another project could involve installing another exit to the building. Christina suggested brainstorming something to help the town with their tech needs, such as a resource room for computers and internet. Having laptops or Chromebooks available for checkout was also suggested. John said he thought it was important to have a goal or two for the next couple of years and that these kinds of ideas were what he was looking for in having this on the agenda, and he suggested keeping it on the agenda for the next two or three meetings.

Budget Meeting Update: Sloane said she attended the budget meeting and found some errors in the budget. After corrections were made, the increase in the budget came to 2.3%. After discussion the board agreed to leave it at a 2.3% increase.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bruce Kennedy to adjourn, seconded by John Filson. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:14 PM.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2021, 3:30 PM

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Approved Minutes  
Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ambrose  
Recording Secretary

Draft Minutes e-mailed to the Trustees, Town Clerk, and Library Director on December 17, 2020.

Minutes approved: January 20, 2021

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