

MADISON LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2023 @ 3:30 PM
JOHN F. CHICK ROOM
APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Betty Fernandes, Bruce Kennedy, Cheryl Littlefield, Karen Lord, Christina McAllister, Patti Rau, Linda Smith, Peter Stevens; Sloane Jarell, Library Director

Others attending: John Filson (via remote)

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 15, 2023 Regular Meeting: Motion by Christina McAllister to approve the minutes of 11-15-2023, seconded by Betty Fernandes. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Treasurer Christina McAllister said the Budget Drawdown looks good, except for the jump in the telephone cost. She noted that there was a change of suppliers. Library Director Sloane Jarell agreed that the change of suppliers had caused some issues. She said as well that there had been a question of whether the library needs a fax line or not, but she said the fax is a definite service for patrons. Christina said we're still working on correcting the formula for the budget.

Motion by Peter Stevens to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Karen Lord. The motion was approved unanimously and the report was accepted and filed for audit.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Library Director Sloane Jarell:

- The statistics are well above average and we are doing better than any other year for circulation.
- We are still trying to get the elementary school kids to come back. Storytime is doing very well. Christina noted that a sidewalk would make it so much easier for the kids to get here from the school. There was a discussion about how the path to Burke Field could be extended behind the fire station. Sloane said it would be a walking path that everyone could use. Peter said he thought there would be a plowing issue.
- We are packed with programs, even more than usual.
- The Cookie Exchange is coming up this Friday and then we are closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
- The Tree Lighting went very well, with about 75 people attending.
- Cheryl and Sloane attended the most recent Advisory Budget Committee meeting, but nothing was said about the library. There will be another meeting on January 16.
- Sloane attended the Bookmobile meeting on December 5 and would like to have a Trustee on the committee.

GALLERY: Nothing scheduled at the moment.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: There will be a Zoom program in January on “Ethical Aspects of Converging and Emerging Technologies.”

OLD BUSINESS

Bookmobile Committee Member: There will be a Bookmobile Committee meeting on January 2 at 6:00 PM in Tamworth and via Zoom. Sloane would like to have as many Trustees attend as possible.

Budget: Already covered.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OTHER BUSINESS: Sloane asked the board to reconsider their previous vote to not allow petition warrant articles to be placed on the counter in the library upstairs. She said that she felt it was a disservice to allow them only in the entryway, because people don't notice them there. The board agreed that petition warrant articles should be allowed to be placed on the counter upstairs in the library.

Motion by Christina McAllister to allow petition warrant articles to be placed on the counter upstairs in the library, seconded by Linda Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bruce Kennedy to adjourn, seconded by Christina McAllister. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 3:57 PM.

Next Meeting: January 17, 2024 @ 3:30 PM

Town of Madison
Board of Library Trustees Approved Minutes
December 20, 2023
Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ambrose
Recording Secretary