

MADISON LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MARCH 19, 2025 @ 3:30 PM
JOHN F. CHICK ROOM
APPROVED MINUTES

ATTENDING: Betty Fernandes, Mary Holmes, Karen Lord, Christina McAllister, Patti Rau, Linda Smith, Peter Stevens; Sloane Jarell, Library Director

MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING: Karen Steadman

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Linda Smith called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 19, 2025, Regular Meeting: Motion by Karen Lord to approve the minutes, seconded by Christina McAllister. There was a correction of names. The minutes as amended were approved by Betty Fernandes, seconded by Patti Rau. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Library Director Sloane Jarell pointed out that the budget documents included the end of February and the first half of March. Christina McAllister asked about the increase on the Book line and Sloane explained that we paid the Library Guild early this year in order to get incentives that were offered. She said we pay a lot of subscriptions in the beginning of the year as well. Sloane noted that there were two heating bills on the February Drawdown and she will check into that. Christina commented that we have lost money on the copier. Sloane said last year we talked about raising the price for copies, but she suggested waiting to see how it goes. Christina noted that investments are going down and we need to keep an eye on that.

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

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Library Director Sloane Jarell:

- The Statistics look right for February, which is traditionally not a hugely busy month.
- Yoga will be back in April.
- Each generator pad will be 30" around.
- Sloane will meet with Selectman Joy Gray and FX Lyons on March 20 to test the water and scout locations for the water filtration system.
- Our grant with the ALA (American Library Association) for \$10,000 was approved, and Sloane will be required to attend 5 webinars and hold a community input session regarding the grant.
- Sloane has applied for another grant to include a button on the downstairs door.

GALLERY: Peter Stevens offered to provide artwork for the Open House on April 7.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: No report.

ELECTIONS

Town Elections

Trustee Elections: Tabled for this meeting. Christina McAllister advised the board that she will not be able to continue as Treasurer.

Alternates: Motion by Karen Lord to approve Betty Fernandes, Mary Holmes, and Bruce Borofsky as Alternates, seconded by Christina McAllister. The motion passed unanimously. Reminder: If they haven't already done so, Alternates need to take the oath of office at the Town Hall before the April meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Investment Policy – Sarah Groleau: Tabled for this meeting.

Amended Coop Bylaws: Discussed at the last meeting. Sloane will send a link to the board.

Agenda for Annual NNHLC Meeting – 1 Trustee Needed, April 2 @ 5:00 PM via Zoom: Patti Rau will attend. Motion by Christina McAllister to accept the amended bylaws, seconded by Patti Rau. The motion passed unanimously.

National Library Week Open House – April 7: Sloane said it would be great if some Trustees could attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Executive Order Defunding the IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services): Sloane said the IMLS distributes funds designated by Congress to the LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act). These funds are used for such items as drivers, vehicles, and fuel for vehicles, as well as catalogs, administrative staff, talking books staff, and part of the OverDrive platform. Sloane said that with the approval by the US Congress of the Continuing Resolution through September, the IMLS believes it will get funding this year and that we can start drawing down on that starting in April. Whether the Executive Order can be overturned by Congress or the courts remains to be seen. Sloane suggested educating the public on this issue with an informational insert into books that are taken out. The board agreed with this and suggested other responses such as a letter to the editor of the Conway Daily Sun and contacting political representatives.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Peter Stevens to adjourn, seconded by Christina McAllister. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:28 PM.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2025, @ 3:30 PM

Town of Madison
Board of Library Trustees Approved Minutes
March 19, 2025
Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Ambrose
Recording Secretary