

Brooks Memorial Library — Fine Arts Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 5, 2018

Present: Prudence Baird, Howard Burrows, Christine de Vallet; Staff: Starr LaTronica; Absent: Judith Bellamy, Connie Bresnahan, Alex Stinson

Call to order 9:45 a.m.

Changes to agenda Discuss under Budget the framing of children's book illustrators' artwork in the library's possession.

Review of minutes No changes to minutes, February 1, 2018

FA Collection Needs & Strategy: • Christine said that she doesn't have the time right now to address this. • Dodie Gaudet, who originally digitized the FA Collection catalog information, will be at the next FA meeting to discuss cataloging. Crystal Gilman, who had been working with Christine, put the FA catalog information into an Excel spreadsheet.

Prioritizing items for display in public spaces: • Zephyr is mounting items (e.g., photos of old library) now. There was a delay due to not having the right tools. Howard will call John Clements at Zephyr to check on the progress of mounting. • The big map of Brattleboro that used to hang on the second floor near the elevator has been taken down permanently. This area will now feature artwork suitable for children.

Fisk bas relief: Judith is contacting the owner to see if the indefinite loan can be transferred to the BHS. The Historical Society has some books that belong to the library, so Starr suggested that an "exchange" be made. If the owner permits the transfer, Judith will facilitate exchange for library's books currently in Historical Society's possession

Exhibits Children's Illustrators: • Exhibits will henceforth be quarterly instead of every two months. • Prudence reported that John and Jennifer Churchman will exhibit one of their "Sweet Pea & Friends" books June 1–August 30. • Starr asked if Prudence has approached Donald Saaf. Prudence said that Saaf had exhibited three years ago, but it would be good to have him back. She will contact him about exhibiting in the future.

General: • "Brattleboro Words Project": In early May, Stephanie Greene will hang a Stephen Greene Press exhibit in various places around the library. • Abenaki basketmaker Judy Dow and 4th/5th grade teacher Cory Sorensen will install an exhibit on "Eugenics in Vermont." • Christine asked whether the Loud cases can be used for three-dimensional items of outside exhibitors, as requested by Stephanie Greene. The committee's consensus was that they can. Greene will be at the library for a meeting today to discuss needs for her exhibit. • Starr will ask John LaTronica if he can hang two glass-fronted former children's exhibit cases to give exhibitors additional space.

Anna Dewdney event Prudence reported that all thank-you notes have been sent to appropriate parties.

Community Opportunities • Billy Myers, former Smith College conservator, will revisit Brattleboro shortly and has spoken to Starr about conducting a workshop on cleaning pottery and statues. Christine asked if he can also refurbish/clean old paintings that have mildew or other issues. Starr will find out if Myers can include painting restoration in his planned workshop. • Starr said staff member Klara Charlton wants to make a YouTube how-to video on building a website from a library catalog.

Fine Arts Budget Starr will find out if the Friends will pay for framing artwork by children's book illustrators Mo Willems and Anna Dewdney.

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next meeting Thursday, May 3, 2018

Submitted by Prudence Baird 4/5/18

(Edited by Judith Bellamy 5/2 and 5/10/18)