

Brooks Memorial Library Fine Arts Committee Meeting December 20, 2016, 3 p.m.

Present: Prudence Baird, Judith Bellamy, Connie Bresnahan, Howard Burrows, Elizabeth McCollum.
Staff: Starr LaTronica. *Guests:* Scott Castle, Alex Stinson. *Absent:* Christine deVallet

Call to order: Howard called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Public comment: None

Minutes of November 3, 2016: The minutes were unanimously approved.

Building & Grounds Update:

- The new FA storage room is completed and the collection has been transferred. The large, sectioned storage bench from the old room was disassembled and reassembled in the middle of the new room, at least temporarily, as a work table. Howard commended Christine for her work in planning the room and accomplishing the move.
- The *Snow Angel* will be relocated to the elevator lobby on the Mezzanine, *and its large marble plaque*, formerly at the Stone Church, will be installed on the wall in the same location.
- It was mentioned that the *Walking Tour brochure* will need to be revised to reflect the various changes effected by the renovations, but that will be done after all the construction and relocations of objects have been completed.

Inventory of Collection: Inventorying will be deferred to the end of January, after Christine returns from her vacation. Elizabeth said she is interested in helping with the inventory. Alex and others mentioned the need to review database programs and select an appropriate one to meet the collection's and committee's needs.

Anna Dewdney Event: Prudence contacted Dewdney's sisters, Tania Luhmann of Stanford University and Alice Laughlin of Putney, and both enthusiastically endorsed having an event. • Since Dewdney's birthday was on Christmas, the timing is revised to coincide with her half-birthday, June 25. School will just be out, and the event will promote reading over the summer by getting books to all children in Windham County. • Prudence emphasized the importance of keeping the "Llama, Llama" brand prominent because the series teaches kids empathy. • Creating book lists, by grade level or by theme, was suggested, as well as taking programs into the community to meet kids where they spend time in the summer, rather than expecting them to come into the library. • Prudence said we could apply for a Vermont Community Foundation grant to support the various efforts, partner with other organizations to implement literacy pathways, and eventually make the celebration of Anna Dewdney an annual event. • Starr said she and children's librarian Lindsay Bellville want to participate in the planning along with Prudence and Connie.

Wikipedia presentation: Alex Stinson said he would like to host an event at the library, which Wikipedia calls "1 Lib 1 Ref" (One Librarian, One Reference). Alex leads a 45-minute workshop for librarians throughout the area to generate interest and build skills in working with Wikipedia and mentoring others. Each librarian contributes one reference to Wikipedia. Some time later a 3-to-5-hour "editathon" led by the librarians is held, during which volunteers write articles and post public domain illustrations about notable subjects in local history and culture. Alex, Starr, and Elizabeth will collaborate to schedule meetings with local librarians. These "1 Lib 1 Ref" meetings will take place between January 15 and February 3, 2017.

Display Schedule: Prudence reported that the children's illustrator's exhibit for February/March will be *Ralph Flies the Coop*, published in September by writer Jamie Scanlon and artist Ellen Tumavicus, both of Brattleboro. *Did Tiger Take the Rain* by writer/illustrator Charles Norris-Brown, newly of Bellows Falls, published in October, will be the April/May exhibit. Both were published by Brattleboro's Green Writers Press. Prudence is hoping to have *Zoa and the Faun* published in December by 99-year-old Brattleboro resident Denise "Jane" Ashworth and illustrator Shannon McCarthy, in June/July.

New Committee Members: Scott Castle accepted Starr's invitation to attend the FA meeting but had to leave early and therefore missed most of the meeting. He expressed interest in the committee, and Starr said she intends to approach him about joining and possibly serving as public arts coordinator, as well as contributing other ideas.

NEXT MEETING: The meeting schedule set at the last meeting was revised to be the last Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm. Therefore the next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 31, 2017, at 1:30 pm.**

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.