

Brooks Memorial Library

Finance Committee

Mon Mar 1, 2021 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM (EST)

Present: Jenny Rowe, Leo Schiff, John Woodward, Sirkka Kauffman, Starr LaTronica

MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order at 4:45.
- 2) Agenda/Changes or additions: none.
- 3) Approval of Minutes of January 11, 2021: Motion to approve by Leo, seconded by Sirkka. Approved.
- 4) Public Comment: none.
- 5) Old Business

- Performance benchmarks from previous years: the committee reviewed and discussed the last five years of benchmark data. This is the first year we could get a five-year benchmark since we have had consistent measurement now for that long.

- Grants:

Current activity: Leo said that the Library may be asked to serve as a fiscal sponsor for a grant to fund a tool library that is being planned by the town sustainability coordinator. The "Library of Things" is the vision behind the tool library. Another upcoming expense may be a Vista worker to help provide technology support.

Needs: Further grant areas to look at are staff development -- some of this already occurs, as staff members apply for fee assistance from conferences they want to attend. Technology -- now that the website is launched, the tech committee could consider what needs we have. Other board committees can also initiate requests. Also, when the board starts the strategic planning process we will be hear directly from the community and more needs may come up.

Sources: Possible funding organizations are the Casey Foundation, the Knight Foundation, the Kellogg Foundation, the Vermont Community Foundation (recent funder of several hotspots to loan out), and the Thomas Thompson grant for furniture we were thinking of before the pandemic.

Starr commented that in general, funders really like collaboration, so projects in common with other organizations will be more likely successful. The staff does not have time to explore the foundation database in depth, but they all watch listserves from the ILS and the ALA, where opportunities are posted. Leo asked if Starr could dedicate some regular time, perhaps every two weeks, to consideration of sources and needs.

- 6) New Business: none.
- 7) Set next meeting: Monday April 5, 4:45.
- 8) Meeting adjourned at 5:12 on a motion from Leo, seconded by Sirkka.