

BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Present: Jenny Rowe, Sirkka Kauffman, Ann Varilly, John Woodward, Leo Schiff, Starr LaTronica, Nikki Holland, Karen Tyler, Chloe Liotta-Jones, Joyce Sullivan

Absent: Kate O'Connor

*Ann called the meeting to order at 4:47pm

*Additions to the Agenda: No changes to the agenda

*Changes to the minutes: Corrected meeting date to August 08, 2023

Committee Updates and Department Reports:

Friends of the Library:

Ice Cream Social was a big success.

An advertisement for the BML will be in the Literary Festivals program this year.

This year's annual appeal letter is in process of being written.

Finance/Asset Committee: Jenny Rowe

No report.

"Everything financially is looking fine", Jenny Rowe

September 28, 2023 Town Department Fair to be held at BML. It is an open house for townspeople to hear how their money is being spent. Leo, Joyce and Karen will have a presence there to speak to the increasing need for a social worker.

The Finance Committee meeting on 9/19 will be open to all board members to brainstorm our participation in the open house.

Karen Tyler made a motion to donate the John Tyler painting to the Brattleboro Historical Society. All approved.

Technology Committee: Leo Schiff

First meeting was robust, and discussed the current needs of BML, public access computers, and self check out. The staff is working on generating a list of needs, and Starr is exploring self-check out.

Building and Grounds Committee: Karen Tyler

It was clarified that the outdoor project be done in its entirety, which will delay the start to secure adequate funding. In the meanwhile, fencing will be constructed along the "Desire Path" to ensure safety.

Possible meeting with Alec Goldschmid and staff to sort out the design for the bookdrop.

Karen made a request for new members to join the committee, and assistance for her. Joyce volunteered to assist.

Strategic Planning Committee: Ann Varilly

The pamphlet and 3-fold are ready for printing; 500 copies of the brochure and 100 copies of the pamphlet.

Department Reports:

During the interim, Starr will do the newsletter. She requests content for it, as well as, any suggestions of who may be hired on a contractual basis to do it until BML hires a replacement for Jeni.

Continuing Business:

Social Work and safety assistance at BML

Head of HCRS and BML staff meet. Though it was understood the need for a social worker at the library, there currently is no funding for it. There is a suggestion of "mental health first aid" training for the staff.

September 28th a social work meeting is scheduled.

New Business:

None

Meeting adjourned at 6:01

Respectfully submitted by,
Joyce Sullivan

