

BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Present: Jenny Rowe, Sirkka Kauffman, Ann Varilly, John Woodward, Starr LaTronica, Nikki Holland, Karen Tyler, Amanda Whiting, Joyce Sullivan, Kate O'Connor

Absent: Leo Schiff

*Ann called the meeting to order at 4:49pm

*Additions to the Agenda: None

Changes to the Minutes:

John Woodward moved to accept minutes, Sirkka Kauffman seconded it.

Committee Updates and Department Reports:

Friends of the Library:

The Annual Letter is underway.

The Friends currently have \$65,000.00 in the bank. Projected purchases: new laptops, hot spot, bicycle pump, possible replacement of batteries for E-bikes.

A request letter to be sent out to businesses is being drafted.

The Friends currently have their own Facebook Page and are looking for a volunteer to help with their webpage.

Finance/Asset Committee: John Woodward

Current profit from the auction is \$12,000.00. Discussion regarding the use of this profit.

Middlebury College will take the Bas Relief Portrait.

Balance of the Fund is \$25,000.00, its purpose remains to be determined.

Adding a narrative regarding the deferred maintenance was suggested for the Treasurer's annual report.

Technology Committee: Nikki Holland

In process: Town's Wifi, needs assessment (patrons' needs require more attention), seeking volunteers to help with tech support for patrons.

Building and Grounds Committee: Karen Tyler

Holding pattern continues for outside project.

DPW to block the gully.

Strategic Planning Committee: Ann Varilly

No Report

Department Reports:

Director: "White Cane Awareness Day", visually impaired people will walk down Main Street as an effort to be more visual.

Youth Program: Pocket Change collection

Child's Program: The Children's Room has its own Facebook Page.

Continuing Business:

Social Work and safety assistance at BML

Mary from HCRS has made a HUGE impact. Her pre-existing connection with many of the patrons has helped stabilize and defuse situations, as well as her clarity as to where to refer people.

Town Budget Process and Next Steps

Request made for Social Worker and Program Outreach positions.

Starr will present the BML budget to Selectboard. No substantial increase is expected, just a reflection of inflation.

Staff Recognition:

Kate motioned to move into executive session, Jenny second it. All in favor.

Amanda was excused from the meeting.

Both Starr and Jeanne Walsh were voted as remarkable women.

John Woodward made a motion to give \$275.00 for gratitude to all staff. Joyce Sullivan second it, all approved.

A gift card will be purchased for Vista Volunteer to coincide with gifts to staff.

Nominating committee to reconvene for one trustee opening.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30

Respectfully submitted by,
Joyce Sullivan