

BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 12, 2024

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

*Ann called the meeting to order at 4:46pm

*Additions to the Agenda: Library Closure

Changes to the Minutes: Library closure

No public present

Minutes accepted as written.

No public present

Committee Updates and Department Reports:

A. Friends of the Library: Jenny Rowe

*The friend have a lot of money and exploring how to use it.

* They are thinking of combining a fund raiser with welcoming refugees.

*Additonal museum passes have been secured for the Children's Museum in Springfield,MA and the Mon shire Museum in Norwich, VT

B. Finance/Asset Committee: John Woodward

NO meeting last,month

*Itemized budget to vote on next month.

*Town Finance Report: the figures at not the same as BML's. John will investigate this further. BML's figures are higher than those of the town's.

C. Technology Committee: Leo Schiff

"We're on a roll", states Leo.

*Reviewed requests from the Needs Assessment.

*Volunteer to provide one-on-on support for patrons.

*Matt is working hard on BML's internet system, the improved system will be funded from the Department of Libraries.

*Leo posed the idea for a visual monitor posting rolling information, upcoming events and services at BML.

Discussion on Trustees thoughts on this. Currently, the Children's Room has a computer monitor that posts events. It is not an extensive slide. Maintenance is time consuming and clunky.

Ann suggested the committee to look into this.

Leo was curious of the trustees reactions...like-dislike-neutral. He also suggested if we visit libraries in the next month to notice if they have such a monitor.

C. Building and Grounds Committee: Karen Tyler

Karen stated, "things have fallen so incredibly into place. Starr has shown us her superpowers of getting this all in order."

*The ARPA grant request has been completed.

*BML received wonderful letter of support from all areas of the community.

* BML's plan is ambitious, just under \$1.5 million. If we are not fully funded, enumerated in the request in a list of priorities.

Karen spoke of the vital input from committee member and from the community.

*Book Drop Shelter construction has begun.

D. Strategic Planning Committee: Ann Varilly

No meeting last month.

Department Reports:

Youth: Chloe Liotta-Jones

*Candyland was a tremendous success, a major draw for both children and adults.

*Chloe reported she was so impressed the teens and their volunteering and organizing the event and the day.

* Note was made that circulation and door count increases after such events.

Director's Report:

*Trustees authorized Starr to make a decision about closing the library for staff training.

* Five candidates for the cataloging position to be interviewed March 28th & 29th.

Continuing Business:

Social Work and Safety:

*Hotel assistance ends on Friday, March 15th.

* Clean clothes provided by Groundwork's for patron to abide by the Code of Conduct.

National Library Week: April 7th-14th

*Community Sing Along

*This is also the week of the Eclipse.

*March Moon Madness begins this week.

* The window in the Chamber of Commerce goes up Monday, March 18th.

Staff Appreciation:

Library Workers Day is April 9th...cake and other sweets will be ordered and delivered for our staff.

Meeting adjourned at 5:31pm

Respectfully submitted by,
Joyce Sullivan