

Brownell Library Trustees Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2023

Brownell Trustees in attendance: Sheila Porter, Christine Packard, Ann Wadsworth, Dottie Bergendahl, Linda Costello, Helen Donahey, Jeanne Grant, Beth Custer, Celine Yao (teen trustee)

Brownell Staff in Attendance: Wendy Hysko, Chessa Caylor

No other attendees

Meeting called to order by: Jeanne at 7:01pm

Agenda Changes/Deletions

Add budget working group to new business

Minutes of Tuesday, May 16, 2023

Dottie moved to accept Minutes as written. Linda seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

\$2,092.96 in Trustees fund.

CD: \$2,853.03

Dottie reviewed the library budget spreadsheet and said that the library should finish this budget year on target.

The Trustees acknowledged the financial report.

Announcements

Jeanne announced that Joe Knox has resigned from the Board as of this meeting. We all acknowledged his service as a Trustee and

Treasurer and will miss him. Thank you, Joe.

Jeanne discussed looking for a new member to take Joe's place and several Trustees said that they would contact potential candidates.

Jeanne mentioned again that those Trustees who haven't submitted their background check forms should do so.

Reports Library Director and Staff Report

There was discussion about staff having to deal with difficult patrons, especially those with mental health problems, and how much more difficult it has become with the end of housing opportunities for the homeless.

The staff was commended on bringing in 34 classrooms to visit the library before the end of the school year and encouraging each child who doesn't have one to get a library card. The library also reached out to the middle school as well.

Committee Reports

There are no committees.

Foundation Report

Dottie reported that the Trustees made \$262.25 at their Memorial Day Book Sale, a bit more than last year when it poured rain right as the parade ended.

Dottie also reported that the Foundation has created a new schedule for book donation dates and rules regarding how to deal with donations which will be shared in writing with the staff. The room will be closed from Saturday, July 5 until Saturday, July 15 while the room is reorganized and the remaining books are

reassessed.

Old Business

Nothing new with the Independence plan. Susan McNamara-Hill will be moving into the City offices by July 1. Everything else is still in flux.

The Memorial Day books sold well, including the books and jigsaw puzzles brought over from the Senior Center. This was a one time arrangement to help them clean out their books and puzzles.

New Business

The Pride Festival was a big success and was so well attended that they will probably have to move the celebration to the Fair Grounds next year.

A new budget work group was created including Jeanne, Sheila and Dottie and may begin meeting as soon as this summer. In the meanwhile, Jeanne and Dottie will meet with the City accounting staff to better understand the line items in our budget reports each month.

Linda requested that money be put in the budget to hire more story tellers and Helen suggested that this might be a good program request for First Wednesdays and that she will give them a call.

Adjournment

Sheila moved to adjourn. Linda seconded. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Christine Packard

----- Note on Vermont Open Meeting Law -

minutes must be taken at every public meeting and must include at least the members present, active participants, motions made, and votes taken. And posted on website and be available by request within 5 days of meeting. ****Minutes should be provided to Library Staff for posting by Friday afternoon of the meeting week to adhere to Vermont Open Meeting law. ****