



Weare Public Library

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Board of Trustees

Mark Carey, Chairman
Josh Hilliard, Treasurer
Gina Green, Secretary
Clay Kriese, Director
Alternate, Hanna Schofield

--Draft Minutes--

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday January 4, 2024

Present: Trustees: Chairman Mark Carey, Treasurer Josh Hilliard, Director Clay Kriese, Alternate Hanna Schofield. Guest: Nancy Zienkiewicz, member of the Friends of the Library

The meeting was called to order at 6:56 pm (as per RSA 91-A: 1-a.) Mark Carey motioned to call the meeting to order. As Secretary Green was absent, Chairman Carey nominated Alternate Schofield as an active trustee for the meeting.

Public Comments:

A public hearing began at 6:57 PM. There were no public comments. The board progressed directly to the public session.

Acceptance of funds:

Per RSA 202-A 4c, the board reviewed the fines, fees, and reimbursements of \$225.22. Chairman Carey moved to accept the funds, Alternate Schofield seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The meeting minutes of September were reviewed. Chairman Mark Carey moved to accept the minutes for the meeting, Treasurer Josh Hilliard seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the meeting minutes were accepted.

Director's Report:

A bit of a decline in the number of checkouts for adult fiction and YA fiction. Might be because titles that used to be popular with adults/teens aren't as popular anymore. Audiobooks and DVDs down. Audiobooks are maybe because it is getting hard to find selections, especially when they won't get checked out significantly. Downloadables and games are having a big jump in checkouts. Chairman Carey inquired about looking at the data a bit more for eBooks to see the trends there.

Thanks to Karen for keeping up with the trends for the children's titles. Inter-library loans were more than last year; lent out more than we had requested, which is indicative of us having a strong selection of materials. Big increase in new accounts for the year (47%). Number of visits was 14% higher than last January last year and overall were up for the entire year.

Had more attendance for December programs than we have in the past; 40% more, which is a library record. Karen and the staff did a great job promoting the programs and library as a whole. Record year for the library

overall, despite some staff shake ups between people retiring and moving.

Ordered forty chairs for the Sawyer room, three new desk chairs and two bean bags for the children's room.

Added some Playaways to the children's collection - similar to MP3 players but play a novel. This will be great accessibility for children.

Chairman Carey motions to accept the director's report. Treasure Hilliard seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Richard Peck's services - Communication with the Library Foundation is left at submitting an official request for their contribution of the funds for Richard Peck's services. Treasurer Carey made the reminder that we will want to have a meeting at some point and invite the Foundation to go over what we work on with Mr. Peck. Homework from Mr. Peck was to look at various mission statements and start to come up with some ideas on our own. Treasurer Hilliard's thoughts: To help educate, entertain and inspire Weare by creating a community space to learn, play and explore. Next step would be to schedule something not on a trustee meeting night, probably earlier than normal, and work through some of these things with Mr. Peck. Director Kriese suggested having it just before the Friends meeting to see if we can encourage people to attend. Nancy Z. reminded that it is also voting night on their next meeting. Group agreed that particular night might not be a good idea.

Treasure Hilliard provided an update to Nancy Z. on what the new plans were for the services the Trustees are seeking from Richard Peck. Nancy mentioned that recently at the Friends meeting it was inquired whether we had also heard of and/or looked at NH Gives (NHGives.org) which is in June, and they start to gear up in February. Instead of the Friends pursuing it, perhaps the Trustees and Foundation could work with this to build a donor base. Since it is designed for a Not-for-Profit organization, we will want to look at working with the foundation on this. We should also talk to Mr. Peck about this and see what he knows and would recommend.

New Business:

Treasurer Hilliard shared that Alternate Heleen Kurk has resigned as an alternate. As much of a loss as this is to us, we should start to see if we know anyone that may be interested in being an Alternate.

Director Kriese shared that due to illnesses and his being away, the library had to close for a full day in December. Primarily a result of illnesses at once.

Chairman Mark Carey made a motion to adjourn; Treasurer Hilliard seconded the motion. All present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting is Thursday February 8, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Hanna Schofield, Alternate