



Weare Public Library
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Board of Trustees

Mark Carey, Chairman
Josh Hilliard, Treasurer
Gina Green, Secretary
Heleen Kurk, Alternate
Clay Kriese, Director

-- Approved Minutes --

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting Thursday April 7, 2022

Present: Trustees: Chairman Mark Carey, Treasurer Josh Hilliard, Secretary Gina Green, Director Clay Kriese, Guest: Joshua Dick, Terry Knowles, Hanna Schofield

The meeting was called to order at 6:56 pm as per RSA 91-A: 1-a.

Acceptance of Minutes:

The meeting minutes of March 3, 2022 were reviewed. Treasurer Josh Hilliard moved to accept the minutes for the meeting, Chairman Mark Carey seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the meeting minutes were accepted.

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

Director's Report:

A public hearing came to order at 6:58 pm, per RSA 202-A 4c.

Director Kriese presented data of the past month's operations, circulation activity and staff development. The library continues to see growth in most categories of materials, particularly graphic novels (177% increase), adult non-fiction (138% increase), and DVDs (102% increase). Total circulation is up 36% from February, and 34 new accounts were created in March. Game afternoons and story time continue to be the most popular activities held at the library.

Director Kriese also reported on the passage of recent Warrant Articles increasing the Library pay by 3% as well as increasing staff wages by \$1 an hour across the board.

Director Kriese also reported on the mailing of the recent town survey on the library and the tenor of the responses so far received. The Director intends to compare and contrast the results with the survey provided approximately 10 years ago.

The shelving ordered by the Director has yet to be installed due to delays from the installer. In addition, the windows in the Sawyer room must be serviced by a lead inspector for lead abatement prior to their replacement. Treasurer Josh Hilliard moved to accept the Director's report for March 2022. Chairman Mark Carey seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Public Session to accept funds:

The hearing was held to accept funds from income generating equipment, donations and other income to be placed in the appropriate funds (\$146.00). Treasurer Josh Hilliard moved to accept the funds. Chairman Mark Carey seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Old Business:

1. Follow up on Banking Signatures: Treasurer Josh Hilliard stated that he had visited TD Bank to sign the paperwork to resolve the issues with the incorrect name on the debit card.
2. Chairman Mark Carey discussed the ongoing survey and the efforts to learn what the town would like to see improved in the library. Terry Knowles mentioned the obligation of the library foundation to use a portion of its monies every year as a non-profit; Treasurer Josh Hilliard shared that the trustees, to date, had not made a direct request upon the foundation but were hoping to do so in the near future.
3. Butterfly Sanctuary: The board discussed the potential for a butterfly sanctuary and concerns over losing contact with the "butterfly person" who had inspired the project.

New Business:

1. Elect New Officers: Treasurer Josh Hilliard suggested that Gina Green, as the newest member, become the new secretary, while he remain Treasurer and Mark Carey remain chairman. All were in agreement; Mark Carey made a motion to be chair, Josh Hilliard Treasurer, and Gina Green recording secretary; Josh Hilliard seconded the motion and all present were in favor.
2. Secretary Gina Green raised concerns about political speech in front of the library and the upcoming Pine Tree Riot celebration. Discussion was had about the scope of the library's power and the likelihood of any political activism at the event.
3. Discussion was raised about the possibility of a seed swap in the library. Alternate Josh Dick voiced his concerns about a swap of that type given his experience as a librarian and the federal and state compliance necessary for a seed swap.
4. Secretary Gina Green suggested the library sponsor a 5K in town to raise funds for the library. Treasurer Josh Hilliard shared that fundraising activities were more the responsibility of the Friends of the Library non-profit group. Terry Knowles shared her concern over any library trustee becoming involved in a fundraising effort as it would likely be a violation of NH law.
5. Hanna Schofield began discussion about building connections between the schools and the library and increasing patron use of the library throughout the summer months. Director Kriese discussed his efforts to interface with teachers and administrators from the schools, especially in 4th grade, and about the after school events that have been driving traffic into the library in the afternoons.

Chairman Mark Carey made a motion to adjourn at 7:50; Treasurer Josh Hilliard seconded the motion. All present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Next meeting is Thursday May 5, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Hilliard, Treasurer