

*****DRAFT*****

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Meeting held in person

Attending:

Board members: Ken Kowalewitz, Natalie Kendrach, Kristen Bartle, Liz Wirsing, Luke Tremble

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: none

Call to order @ 6:06 PM

Organizational meeting: KK turns meeting over to LT to nominate board positions.

NK nominates KK as chair. Seconded by KB. Passes unanimously.

KK nominates NK as secretary. KB seconds. Passes unanimously.

KB nominates LW as treasurer. Seconded by LT. Passes unanimously.

LT turns meeting back to KK.

KK proposes to continue to use MH as recording secretary. Passed unanimously.

Preliminary Business

- **Review payment orders for approval:** Summary of Bills circulated to the board for review.
- **Agenda adjustments:** Ken Kowalewitz (KK) asks if there are any adjustments to the agenda. KK would like to discuss the high school bus under new business.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** The minutes from the February 8, 2022 meeting were brought for approval. KB motioned that the minutes be accepted. LT seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Library Director's Report: Report submitted by Keagan Calkins (KC), reviewed by Board (see full report attached).

- Jennifer McMahon is going to be our 2022 summer author. McMahon is a *New York Times* Bestselling author, who lives in Montpelier, of eleven suspense novels including *The Winter People* and *Promise Not To Tell*. Her latest, *The Children on the Hill*, will be out in April. Mark your calendars for July 15th at 6pm.
- The Library has purchased a subscription to Quickbooks online via TechSoup.
- We have applied for a summer reading grant from the state. The \$300 grant will go towards buying supplies for summer reading activities.

- We have taken down the “masks encouraged and appreciated” signs as a result of the school going masks optional.
- We have completed inventory for all of downstairs!
- I will be hiring for a part time position at the library 5 - 10 hours a week for the summer. This person will gain great library experience and help orchestrate a lot of the summer programming.
- Worthen Passion Project has officially kicked off. I’m hoping to stop into Folsom to talk to the 7th and 8th graders and we have started spreading the word to area high schools.
- Jim Brightwell is spearheading a small working group of community members to help develop adult summer programming at the library. Meeting for the first time March 10.

Statistics strong across most categories with several slightly lower than 2021, most likely due to easing of pandemic restrictions. See Library Director’s Report posted online.

Old & Ongoing Business

Town Meeting report: Budget passed 462 to 147. Trustees elected by outstanding margins.

Development Committee Report: Plans are underway for a spring mailing. Our thought is something along the lines of “something for everyone” and would love input from Trustees for language that appeals to a younger demographic. Spring mailing will be an update to last Fall’s brochure approach, which worked well and produced many new donors. KB suggested a theme of “Let it Grow” and volunteered to create a TikTok video of kids to draw attention to the mailing.

Plans are underway for another small soiree of interested Library donors to meet for a discussion in May.

Jim Brightwell has made an excellent connection with the Fish Hatchery and they are very interested in providing programming for all ages, some targeted to adults, on a variety of fish related topics. Their presentation will be part of a Summer Speaker Series similar to Winter Wednesdays. The Steering Committee will look at the VHC list of speakers for inspiration.

Since January 1, 2022, just over \$9,000 in gifts from 35 individuals has been received. Many of these are recurring gifts.

Worthen Society annual celebration will be held July 16.

Because of a skipped meeting the Dev Committee will meet again this coming Friday.

Bylaws Adoption: Tabled until more clarity received from the Vermont Department of Libraries

Strategic Plan Update: Planning Commission wants to include a new strategic plan for the library in the Town Plan that is currently being revised. Strategic Plan discussions were held about a year ago but not finalized. Trustees are asked to review the work in progress.

Discussion resulted in the suggestion of a community survey using Google forms to facilitate, and backed up with a paper option. Ideally, the Plan should be completed by June.

New Business:

School Bus: Do we want to ask high school buses to pick up and drop off kids at Community Lane? Consensus is yes and Ken will pursue it.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 @ 6:00 pm, in person.