

\*\*\*\*\*DRAFT\*\*\*\*\*

## **Worthen Library**

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

### **Attending:**

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

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: none

Call to order @ 6:06 PM

### **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. Luke requests discussion of the high school bus dropoff and Ken wants to discuss the Foundation Board meeting.
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** The minutes from the December 13, 2022 meeting were brought for approval. LW motioned that the minutes be accepted. KB seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

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

- 3D and a new laser printer for Maker Space have arrived. They will be stored on a moveable table for security and flexibility.
- Keagan asked about Summer author. Stephen Kiernan was recommended.
- There are now 11 volunteers who come in regularly to shelve books and do a lot of other tasks.
- All of the downstairs heat pumps have stopped working. Benoure will be here to look at them January 26th. If not earlier.
- This month the Community Room is reserved for a party for Granny's attic, the Conservation Commission which will be meeting there once a month, and a baby shower. There have been several requests for private events and public meetings. Should the profile of this type of event be increased?
- Passion Project, Summer Speaker Series, and Winter Wednesday meetings are in full swing. Passion Project meets this Thursday, January 12. 2023 promotion is expected to be launched this week. The Summer Speaker Series is chaired by Rich Monterosso and Linda Seavey and will meet January 25th to plan for the summer. Winter Wednesdays are due to kick off in February.

- Winter break programming was a great success. Highlights were the snowball fight and balloon drop at the Noon Year's Eve Party as well as a Banana Piano using the new Makey Makeys.

All stats are up from 2021 except for Kanopy.

### **Old & Ongoing Business**

Development Committee Report: Fundraising went very well in 2022. Both the amount raised increased as well as the number of donors. This is in direct relation to the great stewardship done by both the Trustees and Foundation Board members to donors, both at events such as the Worthen Society celebration in July as well as day to day contacts and the acknowledgement letter. It is also a testament to the strong programming and services provided by Keagan and her staff.

We will be receiving \$57,000 toward the cost of solar panels and a Tesla power wall. Mary Harwood will reach out to Sanders' office to determine next steps and when we might see payment. This funding needs to be matched one to one so at least \$55,000 will need to be raised in the next several months. These panels, once installed and in full operation, will offset approximately \$5,000 in electric costs for the year as well as provide a public energy shelter in the case of another incident such as the 1998 Ice Storm.

Trustees Calendar: Ken asked for comments on the Trustees calendar of tasks by month. Calendar was agreed upon as submitted.

High School Bus: Luke contacted Jamie Smith, transportation director at Essex High School about adjusting the bus drop off. Jamie wants to vet the idea more but is concerned about whether Community Lane is public or private. Luke will follow up. Ken will contact Kathy Larock at South Burlington HS. and see if he can get a SBHS parent to talk to Kathy too.

Foundation Report: Ken brought up the concept of a joint meeting or social event for the Trustees and the Foundation Board. Liz suggested perhaps the meeting happen before Town Meeting. Suggestion is to do something in February. It will be immediately after the Trustees meeting, which is being moved to February 7.

### **New Business**

Review objectionable book policy: The Board reviewed the Library policy on objectionable books that was adopted over 3 years ago. There is a form that people can fill out at the front desk in the case where they would like to object to a book. The actual policy states we will not exclude materials but will consider the person's request.

Quarterly Budget Review: It was noted that the report is only for one quarter, which can skew the percentages if a large purchase is made in a quarter. Going forward, Keagan will print out a report of the year to date.

2022 Outstanding Service Award: Individuals were discussed for the annual award. A 2022 recipient was proposed and unanimously agreed upon.

Next meeting will be **Tuesday, February 7, 2023**

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.