

Worthen Library

Monthly Meeting – Board of Trustees

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Attending:

Trustees: Ken Kowalewitz, Natalie Kendrach, Kristen Bartle

Library Director: Keagan Calkins

Members of the public: None

Call to order @ 6:10 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. None
- **Public Comment:** None
- **Review and accept the minutes from the previous monthly meeting:** The minutes from the April 11, 2023, meeting were brought for approval. There are no minutes for May as that meeting was canceled. NK 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.

- The Library received a \$500 Winnie Bell Learned Grant for supplies for the Passion Project such as promotional materials or if participants need special materials for their project.
- Winners of the Second Annual Passion Project are: Arqhana Tremblay for his work on rebuilding his Go Kart; Taylor Allen for her handmade paracord jewelry; and Forrer Watson for his woodworking and engineering project. There were five entries altogether, including two from North Hero. Next year the Passion Project will be scheduled earlier in the year, in March.
- The Summer Speaker Series is in full swing. Cartoonist and author Harry Bliss kicked it off with a full house. Tyler Jankowski brought in the NBC% weather van to great fascination. To help ensure all can see the screen, a second one is available for the back of the room.

- Labor on Location, from the VT Department of Labor, is a program that sends in a representative to help community members get jobs. They will come several times over the summer.
- Lots of kid's books have arrived thanks to the Friends of the Worthen Library. The next book sale is on July 6th, 7th, and 8th. Proceeds from the book sale go towards new kids bookshelves.
- Summer programming for kids kicks off next week.

Statistics: Audio and eBook stats are up over 2022 as are book loans and DVDs.

Listen Up Vermont usage is up considerably from last year. Other statistics are strong and comparable to 2022.

Old & Ongoing Business

Solar Project Next Steps: Still waiting to hear from the Department of Energy. Haley Pero in Sanders office on May 4th said letters are going out within a week. We still have not heard from them.

Proposals are in the works from DC Energy and Suncommon.

Development Committee Report: The annual spring appeal letter has been sent with a focus on the match for the solar panels. Two grants totaling \$22,000 have been received for the solar panels and so far almost \$7,000 has been received from the mailing.

The Committee will begin planning the Worthen Society Event for Saturday, July 15.

Summer Maintenance: Have had a good start reviewing needs for the building. It has been power washed. The building was then spider-sprayed five days later. There is a list with several other things to do. Columns on the outdoor atrium will be varnished and the railings will be painted. In the Reading Room the sheet rock will be repaired.

New Business

4th of July: There will be a parade. The Library will have a float. The theme is "What You Love About South Hero." Heidi is in charge of the float.

Worthen Society Celebration: Event will be 5 to 7 pm at the Library. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be upstairs and a movie will be shown downstairs for kids so that parents can participate without having to hire a babysitter. The Library will arrange for supervision for kids.

Strategic Plan Check In: This discussion will be tabled until July.

Library Director Review and Contract: The Trustees went into executive session at 7:04 to conduct the Library Director annual review and approved the terms of the Library Director's contract for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Executive Session ended at 8:05 PM.

Next meeting will be **Tuesday, July 11, 2023**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.