

MINUTES OF BLAISDELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

November 7, 2022

Present: Liz Bolton, Allison Friend-Gray, Jim Kelly, Kate Knight-Dupuis, Jen Phillips, Karyn Quinn, Debbie Ricker.

The meeting was called to order at 6:38pm.

Policy Updating/Current Task:

- After persistent inquiries about the new lift, Jen reports that our provider now has the replacement unit. However they are seeing high demand for installation crews. Currently the Library is scheduled for the first week in December. We've learned that if there is a problem with access due to snowstorms, the unit can be delivered through the front door instead of through the door to the Children's Room. Jen will continue to follow up.
- We reviewed and amended our policy on patron challenges to books in the Library's collection. The amended policy is as follows:
 - "Although materials are carefully selected, there can arise differences of opinion regarding suitable materials. Patrons requesting that material be withdrawn from or restricted within the collection may complete a "Statement of Concern About Library Resources" form which is available from the Library Director. The challenged material will remain in the collection while it is being reviewed. The inquiry will be reviewed by the Director and the material will be evaluated based on the complaint. The Director will issue a written decision to the challenger within thirty (30) days of submission of the form. This decision may be appealed to the Library Board of Trustees. The challenger's appeal will be placed on the agenda of the next regular meeting on the Library Board of Trustees. The Trustees as a committee of the whole will establish a review process."

Jim moved and Kate seconded to amend the policy as above. All voted in favor.

Secretary's Report:

- The minutes of the October meeting were reviewed. Jen proposed fixing several typos. Jim moved and Kate seconded to accept the amended minutes. All voted in favor.
- The minutes of public hearing were reviewed. Kate moved and Debbie seconded to accept the minutes. All voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report:

- The Treasurer's report was reviewed. All spending categories were within budget. Jim moved to accept the report and Kate seconded. All voted in favor.

Library Director's Report:

- The gate count is up 3% from October 2021. The Library added 19 new patron accounts last month.
- Demand for the wide variety of our children's programming has been exceptionally high with STEAM Club and LEGO club at capacity. We discussed methods of helping patrons who missed the cut on full programs to access programs in the future.
- Sixty-six students from the Nottingham School Kindergarten classes visited the Library October 16 with the staff introducing them to the Library's many resources.
- Miss Julie is actively planning several new themed storytimes.
- Adult programming continues to be popular. The Cookbook Group restarted in October after a COVID hiatus.
- The Library's 300th anniversary activity is the One Book, One Nottingham program with extra books available and discussion groups scheduled for November and early December.
- We are fortunate to have the services of our dedicated IT volunteer Dick Blouin. We may seek another volunteer as a backup to fill in should Dick ever become unavailable.
- Use of the library during the new Sunday hours is increasing as patrons realize that the library is open.

Jim moved to accept the Director's report and Allison seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Old Business:

- Jen and Liz appeared before the Select Board on October 31 to discuss the Library's budget proposal. The Board acknowledged that the overall Town budget is tight. Liz will appear before the Budget Committee on November 17th.
- We are close to being able to accept online donations.

New Business:

- Town elections are coming in March and candidates must declare in January. There will be at least one vacancy on the Board of Trustees.
- Debbie will be reappointed as an Alternate Trustee.
- Jim moved to accept any and all new donations and Kate seconded. All voted in favor.

The next meeting will be 6:30 on December 14, 2022.

Jim moved to adjourn, and the meeting ended at 7:43pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Kelly