



WEATHERSFIELD PROCTOR LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Unapproved MEETING MINUTES
Thursday March 16, 2023 7:00 PM
At the Weathersfield Proctor Library

Attending: Rick Bates, Chair, Rika Henderson, Mavis Shand Ellingham, John Waite, LD Mark Richardson. Anne Parent had not gotten power back since the storm and was unable to connect remotely. Mavis has not been officially sworn in since being re-elected last week, and consequently did not vote.

Meeting convened: 7:05 PM

Election of Officers:

Rick Bates, Chair: Mavis moved, John seconded, approved unanimously

Rika Henderson, Vice-chair: Mavis moved, John seconded, approved unanimously

Anne Parent, Secretary: Mavis moved, John seconded, approved unanimously

Call To Order: 7: 10 PM

1. Consent Calendar - The consent calendar consists of items that are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in the form of one motion. Any item can be removed from the consent calendar and heard in its regular order at the request of any Library Trustee or Citizen.
 - A. Rika moved and John seconded the approval of the minutes of the last meeting. Unanimously approved.
 - B. John moved and Mavis seconded the approval of the warrant after our review. Unanimously approved.
2. Comments from citizens on topics not on the agenda: None

New Business

A. Trustee Reorganization: See above

B. Library Director's Report:

- LD Mark signed an updated letter of intent with VT Dept of Libraries to access eBooks and eAudiobooks via DoL's Palace app. This will integrate with and massively increase our catalog of eBooks at no cost. He noted that we already offer patrons support and training in using it.
- The Friends of the Library have purchased a pass to the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium for \$100. This gives free admission to the Museum and regular programs in the planetarium, as well as discounts on public programs, a 10% discount in their nature

store, and free or reduced admission to museums and science centers around the world through the Association of Science-Technology Centers Passport program.

- Wifi: Mark signed an agreement with First Light for continuing wifi service for \$250/month for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
- The Weathersfield Historical Society donated a copy of the genealogy program My Brother's Keeper on disc to the library. We have also been given a refurbished work station with a disc drive which will be dedicated to this program.
- Summer Evening with Friends: John moved and Rika seconded that we allocate \$1,200 to hire a band. Unanimously approved. We're thinking a Celtic program might be fun.
- Attendance: Last year we welcomed 3,049 patrons for the entire year. (This was lower than pre-Covid numbers.) In the first 8 months of the current fiscal year (thru February) we have had 2,776 patrons, comparable to last year.
- Accounts: As of February 28, 2023, we had the following balances:

Total Funds: \$ 77,640.66

Chapman Fund: 6,335.36

Cap Impvt Fund: 3,943.13

- C. "Cookie" Shand legacy to the institution: To date, \$2,700 has been donated in memory of Cookie. Our first thought is a memorial bench out front (Mark noted that this is a high school bus pick-up site), to be paid from donations. Mavis will discuss other ideas with Ernie. Discussion to be continued.
- D. Astronomy Programming and Infrastructure: Rick and Mark had a third site visit and made a presentation to Parks & Rec, who were enthusiastic but noted that they were going to embark on a study regarding the use of Hoisington Field and therefore couldn't say yes or no to the idea at this time. We feel we should move ahead on the project and construct the observatory with a removable central post so the building can be moved in the future if necessary.
- E. Town Meeting and Election Day results: There were no question about the Library budget at Town Meeting, and Mavis was resoundingly re-elected.
- F. Vermont Department of Libraries Construction Funding Grants Webinar and Needs Assessment: Mark, Rick and the architect sat in on the webinar. There is \$16.4 M available for VT (rural) libraries and an additional \$10M for preservation. Our eligible projects include new construction, energy efficiency, our attic beams, new windows, lighting, furnace and roofing repairs, Application proposals are due by the end of March 2023, and because we've already done needs assessments, we are "shovel ready," which should put us at the top of the list.

Old Business

- A. Town Challenge: Our team is Glenna, John and Rika, with Mark as alternate
- B. Shakespeare with Patti Arrison at the Library. This is the 10th year Patti has run this; this year's play is "As You Like It."
- C. Window Covers: They've been delivered and Mavis' husband Brian will try to get them up this weekend.
- D. Sign updated BYLAWS: These have been signed.

Adjourned: 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rika Henderson