

Weathersfield Proctor Library Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM
5181 Rte. 5 Ascutney, VT
Approved: January 18, 2024

Attendance Trustees: Chair-Rick Bates, Vice Chair-Rika Henderson,
Secretary-Anne Parent , John Waite, Mavis Ellingwood (absent)
Library Director (LD)-Mark Richardson
Guest: Brandon Gulnick, Weathersfield Town Manager

Call Trustee Meeting to Order-7:06 p.m

- I. 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. John made a motion to approve the minutes from 11/16/2023. Rika seconded and all voted in favor.
 - B. Rika made a motion to approve WPL expenditures dated 12/14/2023 subject to each Trustee's review and signature. John seconded. All voted in favor.
- II. Comments from Citizens on Topics not on the Agenda: None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Library 2024/2025 Final Budget presented by Town Manager, Brandon Gulnick:
LD Mark/Town Manager Brandon went through the proposed budget line by line.
Through careful consideration, a 6% increase was achieved.
 1. Rika made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Anne seconded and all voted in favor.
Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 3rd, 2024. Three WPL trustees are up for nomination.
- B. Library Director's Report: Maria Waite's fabric art exhibit was a fantastic success and visitors came throughout the week. Groups are utilizing the library for meetings - (Republican Party meeting on Monday, regular Weathersfield Garden Club meetings, tax consultants meetings to start soon). LD Mark brought up the latest boxes of Heirloom Seeds and has the catalog too. Rika to assist in organizing- looking to get the word out as it is seed - buying time. LD Mark

shared library related accounting updates. Library staff to attend the Town of Weathersfield Holiday Party at Ascutney Outdoors.

- C. Construction Bid and Grant Status - Zoning Board of Adjustment: Trustees reviewed 2 bids for construction project. John made a motion to accept the bid from GPI Construction, Inc. of \$263,645. Anne seconded and discussion followed. Both companies are highly respected and it is standard to go with the lower bid. Any major changes will need to be discussed with both the Trustees/LD Mark and the contractor. The Zoning Board of Adjustment met on Tuesday, December 12th and Rick, LD Mark, Mavis and Ernie attended. The Zoning Board has 45 days to make a decision. Trustees to be updated at the next meeting.

Old Business

- D. Astronomy update (Sky Party & Observatory) also Solar kit, cooperation with Reading Library and SoVerA educational programming: Ray Stapleton can use a forklift to lift the observatory over the immovable pole (thank you very much!) The Solar kit has been moved along to the Rockingham library. The library should find out about the \$5,000 grant for a solar telescope on Friday, December 15, 2023. The Reading Library sent a thank you note for the solar glasses.
- E. Christmas Programming: Santa is visiting the library on Saturday, December 16th at 6:00 pm! He will be arriving via firetruck and the Weathersfield School will be singing and may set up a Christmas tree. The Friends of the Proctor Library will be making cookies to hand out.
- F. WiFi Access: The current WiFi service will be ending in June, 2024. LD Mark is researching options (Starlink, Consolidated and FirstLight) to ensure there is no lapse in WiFi accessibility.

Adjourn: Rika made a motion to end the meeting at 8:20 pm. John seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Submitted by Anne Parent
WPL Board of Trustees Secretary
December 19, 2023

