

Weathersfield Proctor Library Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 7:00 PM
5181 Rte. 5 Ascutney, VT
Approved: July 20, 2023

Attendance Trustees: Chair-Rick Bates, Vice Chair-Rika Henderson
(arrived a bit late), Secretary-Anne Parent , John Waite, Mavis
Ellingwood (Absent)
Library Director (LD)-Mark Richardson

Call Trustee Meeting to Order-7:00 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 05/18/2023. Anne seconded and all voted in favor (Rick voted to make a quorum.)
 - B. John made a motion to approve WPL expenditures dated 06/15/2023 subject to each Trustee's review and signature. Anne seconded. All voted in favor.

- II. Comments from Citizens on Topics not on the Agenda: None.

- III. Library Director's Report: The library was gifted with a Roll of Honor by the Weathersfield Veterans' Memorial Committee. Patrons have noted its presence and Trustees are thankful for this gift. LD Mark was interviewed by the Valley News for an article about Cookie Shand. Chair Rick, Steve Hier and Town Manager Brandon met regarding the paving expense. The Town is paying for the expense and it will be booked under a new account outlining the purpose so that it may be easily referenced in the future. LD Mark shared that the library will be a drop site for the first annual Jill Lord Summer Food Drive. The drive runs from June 16th - June 30th and is focused on collecting donations to support a food delivery program for children in the Windsor Southeast Supervisory Union towns who aren't able to get to Windsor School for meals over the summer. Many of these families are from Weathersfield (information provided by Alice Stewart, Grants & Projects Manager, Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center.) LD Mark updated Trustees on the balances in the accounts eligible for expansion

(attached) and current attendance numbers. 170 patrons have already been in the library during June and numbers are up in all categories over last year. This is an encouraging rebound after the past couple of years with COVID implications. A speaker, Marilyn Webb Neagley, is scheduled for September 14th at 6:30 pm. This event is co-sponsored by the library and the Weathersfield Historical Society. She will be speaking about her new memoir, *Attic of Dreams*. Youth Librarian Glenna is gearing up to start the summer reading program on Saturday, June 24th and we are now participating in the Golden Dome Award program (formerly the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award.) The books will be shared with another area library.

LD Mark shared the exciting news that starting in September, 2024 the library will be open 5 days during the week. This has been a long-term goal for LD Mark and the Trustees. From September-June, the proposed schedule will be Sunday-Monday-Closed, Tuesday 9 AM-2 PM, Wednesday 9 AM-4 PM, Thursday 10 AM-4 PM, Friday 10 AM - 6 PM and Saturday 9 AM- 3 PM. Trustees look forward to hearing the impact to our numbers.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. EXECUTIVE SESSION (1 V.S.A. 313) Employee Evaluation: Anne made a motion to move into Executive Session for the purposes of Employee Evaluation. Rika seconded and all voted in favor. Discussion ensued. John made a motion to come out of Executive Session and Anne seconded. All voted in favor.
 - i. LD Mark returned to the meeting and Trustees reported the following. Rika made a motion to distribute the Trustees account balance evenly between the 3 library employees. John seconded and all voted in favor.

Old Business

- A. Summer Evening update - Rika reported that everything continues to fall into place with planning for the event to be held on Sunday, July 30, 2023. Donation items have started to arrive.
- B. Construction update: Chair Rick to contact the architect to make sure the meeting with the Fire Marshall for the inspection is scheduled. Rick and Mark continue to prepare for the formal application at some point in September.
- C. Astronomy update: The Star Party co-sponsored by the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group at Hoisington Field was a successful event. There were 7 telescopes set up and about 20 people stopped to participate. There is high potential to plan another Star Party soon. With the solar eclipse coming up,

interest is high in this area. Ray Stapleton feels moving the donated observatory is doable and the Town Manager is in support.

Adjourn: John made a motion to end the meeting at 7:54 pm. Rika seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Submitted by Anne Parent
WPL Board of Trustees Secretary
June 18, 2023