

Weathersfield Proctor Library Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM
5181 Rte. 5 Ascutney, VT

Approved: November 16, 2023

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

(Prior to Call to Order - Glenna Coleman, Judy Topolski and Bob Topolski joined Trustees to celebrate Chair Rick Bates' appointment to the State Board of Libraries. Homemade mooncakes, Moonpies and Moxie were enjoyed! Congratulations Rick!)

Call Trustee Meeting to Order-7:21 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 09/21/2023. Rika seconded and all voted in favor.
 - B. Rika made a motion to approve WPL expenditures dated 10/19/2023 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 Director's Report: LD Mark reported attendance through September was 512 - a great monthly number! Thank you to Bob Topolski for sanding & painting the book box - it looks great and is inspiring a freshen up of the Little Library. Chair Rick and LD Mark to meet with Town Manager Brandon to start the budget process. Anne to review overview of Town of Weathersfield Benefits. This year's COLA figure is 3.2%. Mark will be meeting with the Vermont State Library representatives in Bellows Falls next Thursday and will report back to the

Trustees. Ray Stapleton will be adding the walkways to this year's contract to go out to bid (Mark to find out additional cost). The Weathersfield Garden Club to meet monthly at the library starting in January. Rick, Bob, Judy and Mark did a big clean out of the basement and transported much to the transfer station (THANK YOU!) Rick and Mark to start work on the State Reporting. The telescope is currently out and being enjoyed by patrons- very nice to see.

- B.* State Board of Libraries: Congratulations to Rick for being appointed to the State Board of Libraries by the Governor of Vermont!
- C.* Construction Update: New drawings, Fire Marshall, Zoning, Application: The State has approved the new plans! Chair Rick had the new drawings available for viewing. The next step is for Chair Rick and LD Mark to go in front of the Zoning Board to obtain a permit. The meeting is yet to be scheduled. The Zoning permit will cost \$320 and will come out of the fundraising account. The application is still not open for State funding. We are ready!
- D.* Discussion of bid process: Architect Chip has reached out for 3 bids. 1 of the contractors has declined giving a bid as they are booked out through 2024. Trustees support casting a wider net to ensure we receive 3 bids (best practice).
- E.* Article for Town Meeting: Chair Rick is rethinking the previously discussed revisions to definite term limits for board trustees. The structure as it is (no term limits) is working well and we can remain the same.

Old Business

- F.* Astronomy update (Sky Party & Observatory): Work continues to remove the post limiting movement of the observatory. Chair Rick reported that at the last SoVerA Board Meeting they discussed an up to \$5,000 grant opportunity to obtain a solar telescope. This type of telescope would allow for community outreach for daytime activities as it allows for solar viewing.
 - 1. Rika made a motion in support of the Weathersfield Proctor Library's partnering with SoVerA to apply for the grant. John seconded and all voted in favor. The Reading Library will also participate.
- G.* Trunk or Treat, D & D Group, ESL Club, Shakespeare Group: Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Saturday, October 28th at Hoisington Field from 3:30 - 5:00 pm.

The Library plans to hand out children's books left over from the Book Sale - always a big hit! The Veterans Committee will be bringing a Humvee- great community engagement. The D & D Group continues to meet on Wednesdays and Glenna has found a leather artist to help the group make pouches. The ESL club has had steady attendance with 3 or 4 per week. Patti Arrison's Shakespeare Club's last session is this week and we are thankful for Patti's leadership of the program for the past 10+ years! A new session will start in January. November is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)! The library will be participating and hosting two events. A launch party on Wednesday, November 1 from 2:30-4:00 pm and the second event will be Saturday, December 2! A great way to be with other writers and be cozy at the library! Lastly, the Stuffed Animal Sleepover (Friday, October 13-Saturday, October 14) was a success and thank you to Glenna Coleman, Glenna's friends and Julie Lannen for helping to make the event fun for the participants.

H. Genealogy and the Library: LD Mark relayed that there has been an uptick of patrons coming to the library specifically for our genealogy resources and some from very far away (like Seattle!) LD Mark is looking into further training with a French-Canadian focus. Rika suggested having a genealogical workshop at the library- a great way to get the word out! Chair Rick and LD Mark to include the genealogical resources in their Town Reports.

Adjourn: Rika made a motion to end the meeting at 8:33 pm. John seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Submitted by Anne Parent
WPL Board of Trustees Secretary
October 24, 2023