

MEETING MINUTES

Memorial Library Trustees Meeting

Thursday, August 19, 2021

6:00 PM

In Attendance: Stephanie Davis-Secretary, Mary Stoddard-Chair, Emma Basham-Trustee, Kit Hood-Trustee, Marian Weatherbee-Trustee, Margaret Raymond-Treasurer for Town of Sharon

Approve Minutes from July meeting

All Trustees present unanimously approved the Meeting Minutes from June.

Review Financial Reports

Trustees reviewed the financial reports. There were no items to discuss.

Review and Sign Warrants

All Trustees were present at the meeting and approved the warrants. Kit Hood, Marian Weatherbee and Mary Stoddard will sign the warrants between August 20 and 21.

Librarian's Report

July Stats

Checkouts : 415 (217 last year)

ILL Requests Filled for Us : 51 (18 last year)

ILL Requests We Filled for Others : 12 (2 last year)

Overdrive : 81 (78 last year)

Visits : 298 (124 last year)

Web stats : 296 views/181 visitors (865/487 last year - the most ever)

Summer Reading Program

38 kids participated in the summer reading program and I had a tremendous number of challenge tickets returned from a few dozen kids. Unfortunately, I didn't have time to figure out the button making machine (will do so as soon as possible), so I purchased

clearance summer items and on-sale back-to-school items as giveaways (Frisbees, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, markers, etc.). All told, everything cost less than \$13. It was perfect timing.

Outside Groups Meeting at the Library

Bonnie Dorie called to ask when non-library groups might be able to use the library once more. I let her know I would bring it up at the trustees meeting.

The Trustees feel as though outside groups can use the space as long as it is a public event. No private events are allowed. Outside groups will have to follow our Covid protocols. Outside groups are welcome to use the library again.

Grants

Vermont Community Foundation Grant for Public Libraries

With this grant, we've been able to purchase the wireless printer and two high capacity toner cartridges, as well as a Mac Mini computer for patron use. I'm unsure how much of the grant is left (I'll find out from Deb), but we'll need a monitor for the computer. I imagine I can easily source one that's good quality and inexpensive.

Courier Grant

We should be receiving the courier grant again this year. (I've applied before the deadline, and it's a noncompetitive grant.) It will cover half the cost of the courier service: \$536.77.

ALA Grant

I've used \$500 of the \$1500 slated for nonfiction children's books. (I decided that ordering them all at once would be a tad overwhelming, so I'm putting in three orders of \$500 each.) I'm planning to take the required coursework this weekend. I can then set up a time for Zoom meetings with homeschooling families and begin advertising them.

ARSL Grant

Because I completed a lengthy survey for the Association of Rural

and Small Libraries, we've been invited to apply for a grant to cover one project between \$2500 and \$5000. I priced a permanent Storywalk, but it would likely cost over \$6000. (That said, I was able to find a small library that has created a simple quasi-permanent Storywalk very cheaply, and it wouldn't be too difficult for us to do.) The deadline for applications is September 15.

The Trustees are going to encourage Shana to apply for the grant and if the library receives the \$5000, the library will cover the rest (up to \$1000). We can also figure out how to do one for a less expensive cost if we do not receive the full \$5000.

ARPA Grant

I submitted our budget but haven't heard anything yet from the Vermont Department of Libraries (I think, in this instance, no news is good news). Conceiving a workable makerspace in such a small space without dedicated staff was challenging, but I think the end result will work just fine. I decided to scale back on the number of Keva Planks in order to purchase more and varied items. So, the makerspace will include robotics, engineering/construction, spatial play, possibilities for invention, craft making items, and even makerspacey writing stuff.