

Library Trustees Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2106

Present: Kristian Connolly, Kirsten Murch, Sarah Despins, Anne Hatch, Diane Kreis (phone)

Absent: Ellen Cady, Alissa Smith, Erik Volk

Note: Minutes taken by Kristian Connolly in Erik Volk's absence



- Meeting began at 7:04 PM.
- Agenda had one item added: moving April regular meeting to April 18.
- Secretary's minutes skipped in Erik's absence
- Welcome new Trustee, Sarah Despins, and discussed providing a new-Trustee orientation packet by next Monday.
- Review brief report regarding Board size and when we will officially become a 5-member board. In Ellen's absence, Kirsten agreed to stay on until March 21 special meeting, at which time both Ellen and Kirsten are expected to resign, setting the BOT at five members going forward
- Financial report skipped in Ellen's absence – update expected March 21
- Officer elections – it was moved by Kirsten, seconded by Sarah, that we postpone officer elections until March 21 fundraising meeting. All four Trustees in attendance voted in favor.
- March 21 fundraising meeting discussed: Time set for 7 p.m., Anne will provide Friends list for reminding Friends in advance.
- Librarian's report: Anne's previously emailed report was reviewed. Anne updated to say that she had spoken with Rural Edge about the elevator, and they provided a possible cost of up to \$1,000 to fix the elevator, while also allowing for the possibility that it could be as simple as replacing batteries. ... Discussion also was had about Saturday/Sunday open hours thanks to volunteers, and it was thought best that perhaps a single block of four hours, split between two volunteers, might be best to try at first. ... Attendance numbers are strong. ... Anne mentioned how pleased she was with the Youth Advisory Committee program, and that it is going very well. ... Anne earlier reported on information from Modern Woodmen and a matching grant program (of up to \$2,500) they offer for a fundraiser. It was discussed that raising money for books could be a possible theme of the fundraiser, but Anne was going to ask more questions of Modern Woodmen to understand the parameters that we'd need to work within.
- Update on Rural Edge/Library building status: Diane reported that she and Peter have reached a conclusion that there are three options for the BOT to consider, and Peter would like an answer from the BOT to take to Rural Edge in the negotiations.
 - Option 1: Do nothing, let the status quo prevail
 - Option 2: Rural Edge acknowledges that the \$50,000 the library gave to the project in the beginning was a loan. Rural Edge would keep that money, and donate the library building to the town.
 - Option 3: Ask for the \$50,000 to be returned, but not take ownership of the library building

Diane also reported that Rural Edge has stated that there were cost overages incurred in the renovations/construction, and that they would seek compensation for those overages. Diane and Peter do not feel the library/town owes Rural Edge for those overages, and would contest that claim.

After much discussion, Kirsten moved that we hold a special meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 21, to discuss this issue. Sarah seconded, and all Trustees in attendance voted in favor. It was also agreed that Peter Lyon, and the Selectboard, should be invited to attend, and participate.

- Diane (phone) exited the meeting.
- Brief discussion about the meeting format and the alternating-month method of meetings tried last year. Agreed to discuss further at next meeting.
- Brief discussion about the need for a “Library goals” conversation in order to formulate a long-term plan for the Library, not only for the direction of the library in terms of the type of library it is/will be, but also to help direct fundraising efforts to help meet those goals.
- Action item updates
 - In Alissa’s absence, no update on cleaning contract
 - Anne will have key policy update at a future meeting
 - Kirsten will revisit email sent about Fire Marshall and inspection for determining max occupancy for first floor. Something the board needs to talk about as a whole before an inspection is authorized/scheduled.
 - Kirsten responded to the inquiry about the Library Assistant position.
 - It was suggested to ask Nichole for whatever work she had accomplished toward the Trustee survey.
- Kirsten moved that we change the date of our April meeting to April 18, to account for Anne being on vacation from April 3-13. Sarah seconded, and all Trustees present voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.