

Groton Free Public Library

1304 Scott Hwy

Groton, VT 05046

September 23, 2021

The duly warned meeting of the Library Trustees was held via Zoom on September 23, 2021.

Attendance for the meeting:

Trustees Alissa Smith, Wade Johnson, Jr., Deborah Jurist and Jennie Gaiss; Librarian Jodi Fleurie-Wohlleb and Friends of GFPL representative, Donna Russo-Savage.

Meeting was called to order at 6:29p.m.

Agenda was approved along with the minutes from the June 10, 2021 and August 19, 2021 meetings.

Treasurer's Report

Wade presented the Treasurer's report.

- A CD held at Wells River Bank has been renewed.
- Air purifiers and a new wireless printer have been purchased with the ARPA grant. Since the ARPA funding won't be distributed until October, funds from the 400 account were used to cover these expenses for now. When the ARPA funding arrives, the 400 account will be reimbursed for these purchases.

Friends Report: Fall Foliage Book Sale

Donna reported that the Friends met on Monday, Sept. 13 to finalize plans for the Fall Foliage Book Sale. The Book Sale will be conducted in the library during open library hours on Friday, Oct. 1 (2:30-7pm) and outdoors and in the library on Saturday, Oct. 2 (9am-3pm).

- Wednesday, Sept 29: Friends/volunteers will pick up stored book bins from Alissa's barn
- Thursday, Sept. 30: Friends will set up for the sale.
 - Bookshelves upstairs with materials in our collection will be covered or clearly marked so people don't assume they are part of the sale.
 - Tables will be set up throughout the library with books displayed by category.
 - Signage regarding indoor mask requirements will be posted throughout. Jodi will have disposable masks available for patrons.
- Friday, Oct 1: 2:30-7pm Book Sale
- Saturday, Oct 2: 9am-3pm Book Sale
 - Outdoor tables will be set up on Saturday in the parking space/sidewalk in front of the library and on the front porch
- Sunday, Oct 3: Cleanup
- Monday, Oct. 4: Cleanup (if necessary)

Budget Committee

Alissa noted that the deadline for the library budget proposal for 2022 will be due at the Town Clerk's office sometime in November. Treasurer Wade Johnson Jr. and Librarian Jodi Fleurrie-Wohlleb along with Deb Jurist will make up the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee will meet in the coming weeks to put together a proposal for 2022.

Librarian Report

Jodi reported that there are now 5 air purifiers in use at the library. The new wireless printer has arrived and Gary Lamberton will get it set up when his schedule allows.

Patronage at the library continues to be slow. This is likely due to the pandemic and people's concerns about limiting exposure. Our mask mandate remains in place and we continue to request that patrons limit their visits to under 15 minutes. Curbside pickup

Jodi noted that the low patronage may also indicate that many of our regular patrons view our library as a community gathering place, in addition to being an information resource. We look forward to returning to regular operations and will continue to monitor.

It was noted that many patrons may be using the online services offered through the Green Mountain Consortium. Jodi will pull up those figures and provide a report at the next meeting.

A discussion followed regarding ways to increase patronage.

- Sunshine in a Bag – "Book and a Cookie"
- Craft kit or coloring books for pickup
- Storytime recordings for online access. Deb suggested contacting Kingdom Access to see if this is something they'd be interested in helping us with. If not, they may be able to offer suggestions for low price equipment (microphone, tripod, etc) to get us started.
- Connect with other librarians to share ideas

In addition to the Book Sale, GFPL will participate in the statewide Fairytale Festival on Saturday, Oct. 2 – during Fall Foliage Day. Jodi will set up a scavenger hunt throughout the community. Cards can be picked up at the library with clues to locate the five "dragon eggs" hidden in town and get their cards stamped. Participants can return stamped cards with to enter drawing for a chance to win a dragon hand puppet.

No other business was discussed.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, October 14, 2021 at 6:30p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie Gaiss, Secretary