

Groton Free Public Library, Groton VT

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, April 10, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

The duly warned special meeting of the Library Trustees was held at the Groton Free Public Library on April 10, 2024.

In Attendance:

The Trustees in attendance were Jennie Gaiss, Chair (remotely); Dawn Evans; Deborah Jurist; Wayne Knott; and Donna Russo-Savage (remotely). Also in attendance was Library Director Sarah Spira.

Deborah Jurist called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Dawn Evans moved to approve minutes of the March 7, 2024, Board of Trustees Meeting. Deborah Jurist seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Deborah Jurist reported that the budget is on target.

Library Director's Report

Sarah Spira reported that she attended the Department of Libraries' Trustee Training Session which was held on April 4th. Sarah will share the slides and recording with the trustees.

Library volunteers will be putting in a small perennial garden when the weather warms.

302 Cares has asked if during the month of April the library would display a red light and a sign commemorating Alcohol Awareness Month. Rural Edge has approved it.

Rural Edge has also approved the installation of a bike repair station. Sarah has obtained a quote from Dero, the bicycle repair company.

Steve Hart will put the back garden back together once the snow is gone.

Three interviews for the Library Assistant position are scheduled this week. Joy Worland (with the Vermont Department of Libraries) recommended there be a second person to participate in

the process. Deborah Jurist will be joining Sarah in conducting the interviews, two of which will take place on April 11 and one of which will occur on April 13.

Wayne Knott has asked whether the library might house an AED. There is a group that is making a bulk purchase. Groton is hoping to get two. It will arrive in the spring. Hopefully, we can identify some training for its use.

We have a potential donation of a large flat screen smart TV. It could be used for small movie nights or a video game night. Sarah envisions installing it on a swivel bracket in the front room. The library would purchase the bracket to hang it.

Sarah believes one of the computers in the back room may need to be replaced. She is still troubleshooting and will follow up with the trustees if the library needs to purchase a computer outside of what was budgeted. Gary and Terrence will be returning to wrap up the finishing touches on the wiring of the new internet system in the coming weeks.

In March, the launch of Tween/Teen night took place, which is supported by 302 Cares and Sarky's.

Sarah will be seeking volunteers to clean up at the park and library grounds on Green Up Day.

Summer programming is taking shape. Vermont Garden Network will be doing a food and nutrition-based program on the afternoon of June 29, hopefully to be held next to the community garden. The program is grant-funded. We qualify for their free programming.

In July, there will be a Smokey the Bear reading challenge with prizes, fire trucks, etc. We will be working with the forest fire warden and the volunteer fire department to participate in the event.

At the end of summer, Sarah hopes to do a patron survey and some listening sessions to see what the response is to recent library programming.

We are receiving funding through 302 Cares for the teen activities.

Sarah will be applying for the Summer Program Grant which will be used for an all-ages craft program.

Sarah has continued to be in communication with the Groton Historical Society about collaborating on events. She has been in communication with WYKR about collaborating on some radio programming.

The 4H will be doing an activity weekend at Stillwater State Park in September.

Sarah has been in communication with Little Rivers/NVRH about setting up a vaccine clinic at the library in the fall.

Sarah plans to circle back to the Recreation Committee to let it know that the library plans to repeat the Winter Lights event and hopes for its support. She will also be asking for the Committee purchase of an extra state parks pass for the library and request it purchase a bicycle rack.

The Vermont Early Literacy Initiative has invited the library to join a cohort of libraries. Sarah will learn more about it. She believes it's part of the Vermont Humanities Counsel's programming.

Groton's Methodist Church has scheduled a clothing giveaway to be held May 10-11. Sarah will coordinate with NEKCA about collecting any leftover clothing.

Louis Gaudette, through a collaboration with the Mentoring Project, has been volunteering to help the after school Making Things Club, which meets on Wednesdays.

The library volunteers and friend have been invited to a meeting on April 20. Board members are welcome to join. It will be mostly a social gathering. The plan is to discuss what's going on in the summer and get a sense of what people are interested in doing.

Sarah will be attending the Children's Literacy Foundation conference in Fairlee on April 12th and the Vermont Library Association Conference on May 20th.

Policy Review Committee update

Jennie Gaiss, Donna Russo-Savage and Sarah met recently and have a near-final draft. One more meeting will be held to finalize the draft before it is sent to Joy Worland for her review and comment. Then it will be delivered to the trustees for review.

Friends Report

There is no update; however, they will be meeting on April 20.

Public Comments: No public members were present.

Next Meeting: May 2, 2024, at 6:30.

Dawn Evans made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Deborah Jurist. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Evans, Secretary