



Whipple Free Library
There's Always Another Chapter

MINUTES FOR LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

May 19, 2020

Present (on Zoom): William Gould, Dick Backus, Craig Anderson, Sarah Chapman, Jennifer Allocca, Tom Rothwell, Betsy Whitman, Kate Fitzpatrick, Roger Dignard, Fred Hayes, Dick Jardine.

Review and approve prior minutes

The April minutes were approved by the Board.

Treasurer Reports

- Jennifer reported we were under budget by about \$3,900 or about 18%.
- There was no change in the electricity bill so the solar panels have been making a positive difference in the uncertainty of utility costs.
- There is about a \$91,000 balance in the trustees funds.
- Dodge Trust funds money in the amount of \$1,300 was received.
- There were no significant changes in the Town portion of the report.
- The Treasurer report was accepted by the Board.

Replacement of lights with LEDs

- Roger Dignard presented information about the power consumption in the Library, retrofitting the existing fixtures with LED fixtures. This would be a savings of about \$700 per year, also saving the environment. Additionally, there would no longer be the hum and flicker of the ballasts and light-changing would be minimized. This include the lights in the parking lot.
- The cost may be on the order of \$2,500, half of which would be rebated by Eversource, and there is a program available to preclude an up-front cost.
- Roger will get the actual costs (a proposal from EMC) and report back.

Spending considering the default budget (consequences)

- Bill suggested closing on Thursdays and/or Saturdays
- The Board will discuss this further in the future.

Library Director's Report

- The Board approved acceptance of the donation of \$200 from the Farmer's Market.
- Bill agreed to write a statement about the Library's activities and opening plans after receiving input from Sarah.
- Sarah discussed some possibilities for re-opening, stating that there are many safety concerns, as well as legal concerns, to be considered.
- Sarah has obtained a large quantity of masks that can be given to staff and patrons. Additionally, the Library has been given face shields.
- There will be a Summer Reading Program online. The details have yet to be worked out.
- The link to Hoopla available on the Library web page works to connect to that service.
- There was discussion about the possibility of an online book sale or auction, but that has not been formalized or agreed upon by the Friends.

Trust Fund Report

- Fred Hayes reported that we were really doing great at the end of 2019, but obviously things have changed.
- Fred suggested that there is no need to make significant changes in the way the funds are invested.
- Fred reminded us that only the interest in the funds are accessible; the principle is in perpetuity.

Solar Display Report

- Brown Graphix continues working on the design for the solar iPad display. Jennifer shared the present version of the poster, and the Board suggested improvements.
- A tinyurl has been created to facilitate access to the online solar panel generation information.

NHLTA Awards Report

- Dick J sent the updated draft of the memorandum recommending Bill Gould for the Trustee of the Year award to Susan Gaudiello, the NHLTA President. She replied that the invitation to submit applications will be announced in late May or June.

Strategic Planning

- Strategic planning is on hold considering the present environment and until further government guidance is provided.

Human Resources (and Little Free Library) Report

- The Girl Scouts are not meeting because of the pandemic, so the Little Free Library project is on hold.
- Kate continues to revise the personnel policy and will be coordinating with Sarah.

Strategic Planning

- Dick B sent the water sample for analysis and obtained another negative report on the biologic contaminants tested.

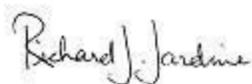
New Business

- Jennifer suggested that it might be worth investigating if the Library could become a community resource for money-saving medical information, particularly medicines.

The Board adjourned at 8:05.

Next meeting is June 16 , 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dick Jardine, Secretary